

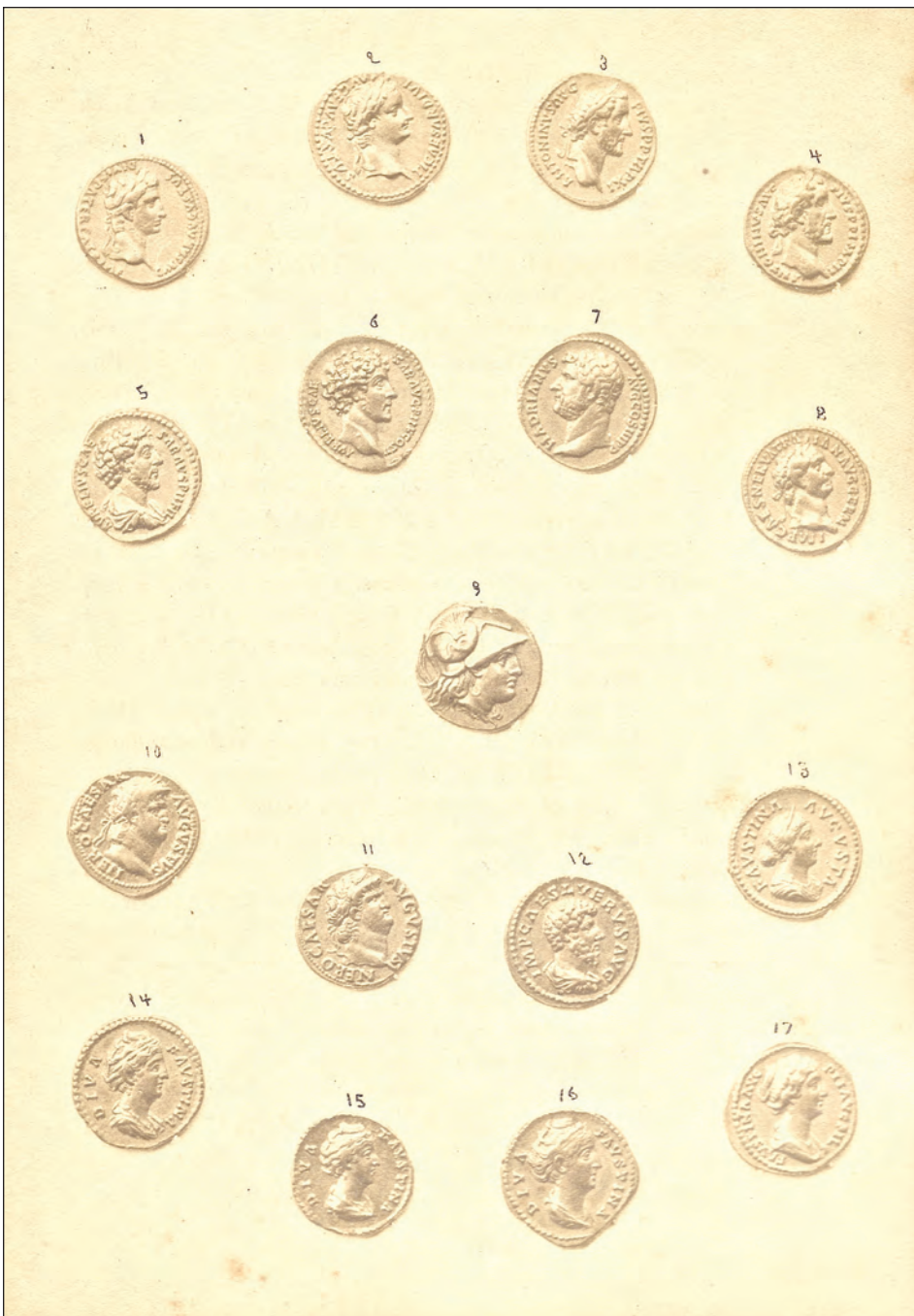
# ANCIENT COINS IN EARLY AMERICAN AUCTIONS, 1869–1939

*A Bibliography and Analysis of Early American Auction Catalogues  
with Photographically Printed Illustrations of Ancient Coins*

David F. Fanning



ANCIENT COINS IN  
EARLY AMERICAN  
AUCTIONS,  
1869–1939



A plate from Edward Cogan's June 23–24, 1869 sale of the Mortimer L. Mackenzie collection, the first photographically illustrated American numismatic auction catalogue.

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Gahanna

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Dedicated to John Weston Adams—  
Pathfinder, Trailblazer, Guide



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction . . . . . 1

Summary Table—Alphabetical. . . . . 17

Summary Table—Chronological . . . . . 19

Barney Bluestone . . . . . 22

Milferd H. Bolender. . . . . 30

The Chapman Brothers . . . . . 34

Henry Chapman. . . . . 58

S.H. Chapman. . . . . 66

Edward Cogan . . . . . 76

Thomas L. Elder . . . . . 82

Édouard Frossard. . . . . 118

John W. Haseltine. . . . . 136

B. Max Mehl . . . . . 140

Fred Michael & Bro. / Edward Michael. . . . . 152

New York Coin and Stamp Company . . . . . 158

Wayte Raymond . . . . . 162

John W. Scott. . . . . 204

Harlan Page Smith . . . . . 216

Stack's. . . . . 226

William H. Strobridge . . . . . 234

W. Elliot Woodward. . . . . 244

Appendices . . . . . 262

Sources. . . . . 273

Bibliography . . . . . 275

Acknowledgements . . . . . 279





## INTRODUCTION

A number of characteristics are taken into consideration when evaluating the quality or desirability of an ancient coin. One such characteristic, perhaps given more emphasis now than ever before, is a coin's provenance—its ownership history. Being able to trace the prior ownership of a coin, as it formed part of the collections of previous generations of collectors, is appealing for a variety of reasons, from the romantic to the strictly practical. Knowing that a particular piece was chosen by an esteemed collector of another age—that it was admired, fancied, even loved—makes that coin all the more special to many collectors today. On a more pragmatic note, the provenance of an ancient coin can provide evidence that it was above ground by a given date, which is useful in an era in which restrictive laws governing the transport of coins across international boundaries have been embraced by some governments.

One of the most effective ways to demonstrate a coin's provenance is through comparison to accurate illustrations in publications. Numismatic auction catalogues, in particular, have become vital tools in establishing the provenance of coins. Many people within the numismatic trade are familiar with classic European auction catalogues illustrating ancient coins. This level of familiarity, however, is rarely extended to older American catalogues. The present work attempts to provide both a bibliography and analysis of early American auction catalogues with photographically printed illustrations depicting ancient coins. Biographical material is presented concerning the coin dealers whose catalogues are discussed, and a bibliography lists every catalogue I have been able to locate that falls within the scope of this study. A statistical analysis of these catalogues follows the main section of this work, together with supplementary information relevant to provenance research.

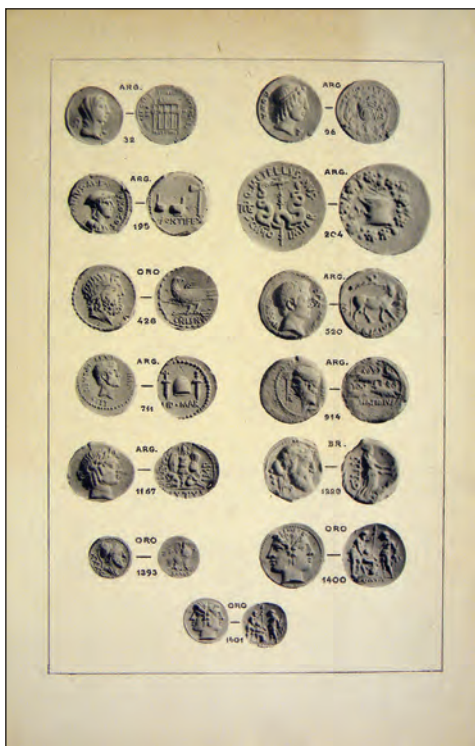
For the purposes of this study, I am restricting the working definition of "ancient coins" to include coins from the period of classical antiquity—from the advent of coinage to the fall of the Western Empire. This would include all coins generally classified as Greek or Roman, as well as Celtic and ancient Jewish coins. Asian and African coins are included only to the extent that they have been categorized as falling within the Greek or Roman tradition in standard references such as the British Museum catalogues. Byzantine coins struck after the fall of the Western Empire are not included. While one might legitimately quibble with some of the boundaries established for this project, I would beg the reader's indulgence on the dual grounds that boundaries need to be set and the affected number of coins (i.e., coins that might be included herein under a slightly different set of boundaries) is very small.

The auction catalogues that fall within the purview of this study are ones published in the United States of America through the end of 1939. The descent of the European continent into war in that year dramatically affected the trade in ancient coins throughout the world and seems to provide a logical stopping point. The bibliographical portion of this text is limited to those early American auction catalogues that include photographically printed illustrations of ancient coins being offered for sale within the catalogue.

Early auction catalogues were generally unillustrated. Occasionally, for particularly notable collections, engraved or lithographic plates would be prepared to illustrate exceptional specimens in the auction. These types of illustrations are generally unsuitable for establishing provenance, however, as they rarely provide the sort of detail necessary to distinguish one example of a coin type from another. Only with the advent of commercial photography in the middle of the nineteenth century were printing processes developed that could allow the inclusion of accurate illustrations of coins that were truly representative of the item being offered.

There is a general tendency to assume that older U.S. auction catalogues have little or nothing to say about ancient coins. The best bibliography of numismatic auction catalogues depicting ancient coins is John Spring's *Ancient Coin Auction Catalogues 1880–1980*. Spring begins his coverage of plated catalogues with the April 1881 catalogue of the third part of the Bartolomeo Borghesi collection, offered for sale at auction by Sambon & Dura. That catalogue includes two photographically printed plates depicting ancient Roman coins. In Spring's comments regarding this sale (Number 595 in his listing), he writes, "As far as we know these are the first photographic plates to appear in an ancient coin catalogue." As it turns out, there are at least ten U.S. catalogues depicting ancient coins that were published before the Borghesi sale, and at least one British catalogue.

The first photographically illustrated numismatic auction catalogue was published in 1868 by German coin



A plate from Sambon & Dura's April 1881 sale of Part III of the Bartolomeo Borghesi collection, the earliest photographically illustrated catalogue listed in John Spring's *Ancient Coin Auction Catalogues 1880–1980* (Spink, 2009).

dealer Carl Fieweger. The catalogue he produced for his auction sale of material from the collection of Hugo von Saurma-Jeltsch, beginning on April 27, 1868, included two photographic plates depicting German talers. American dealer Edward Cogan's catalogue of the Mortimer Livingston Mackenzie collection, offered at auction on June 23–24, 1869, was the first to feature photographic illustrations of ancient coins. Cogan's catalogue was impressive, featuring five photographic plates of rather high quality. These were actual photographs: original albumen prints mounted on card stock and bound between signatures of the catalogue's printed text. Cogan would use this process in several more illustrated catalogues throughout his career. As the Mackenzie sale features a full plate entirely devoted to ancient gold coins (see frontispiece), it is the earliest sale included in the present bibliography.

The following pages discuss nearly one hundred American auction catalogues published between 1869 and 1939 that include photographically printed illustrations of ancient coins. While Spring includes only eight of them, his criteria for selection were more restrictive than mine and hence this should not be seen as a criticism of his work (which I admire very much). That said, the fact that the best European bibliography on the subject could fail to list a catalogue as important as Thomas Elder's 1920 sale of the Henry C. Miller collection, with fourteen exceptional photographic plates devoted entirely to Roman Imperial coins (and with various other ancient coins depicted on other plates), is indicative of the general lack of familiarity with these catalogues that I hope to help rectify here.

The rarity of early American plated auction catalogues goes a long way toward explaining why the numismatic community is so unaware of them. Virtually all of the catalogues included in this listing are scarce, and many of them are very rare, often existing to the extent of ten or fewer known copies. Most of the catalogues for which photographically printed plates were prepared were distributed to a general audience without those plates, with plated copies being available for



The April 1868 catalogue of coins from the collection of Hugo von Saurma-Jeltsch, published in Berlin by dealer Carl Fieweger, is the earliest photographically illustrated numismatic auction catalogue yet traced. *Photo courtesy of Hadrien Rambach.*



The March 1785 auction of the Estate of Pierre Eugène du Simitière, the earliest known auction sale in the United States to include numismatic objects for which a printed catalogue exists. *Photo courtesy of The Library Company of Philadelphia.*

purchase by serious collectors. The economics of printing such plates in the nineteenth century made widespread distribution of illustrated copies impracticable. This began to change with the advent of halftone printing processes in the early twentieth century, but as halftones are of considerably lower quality, photographic plates continued to be prepared and offered on a limited basis for many of the more important sales of the period. It is an unfortunate fact that some of the early American plated catalogues that are most important for ancient coins are infrequently encountered in the marketplace.

## COIN COLLECTING IN AMERICA

The history of coin collecting in the United States and the story of the development of the modern auction catalogue follow parallel courses. The earliest numismatists in the U.S. were assembling their collections toward the end of the eighteenth century. While in some cases a fair amount is known of these men, who include such noteworthy personages as Pierre Eugène du Simitière, Dr. Benjamin Rush, and merchant John Andrews, generally little is known about their collections.

In 1782, Pierre Eugène du Simitière (1737–1784) opened the American Museum in Philadelphia, establishing one of the earliest such institutions in this country. He died two years later, and the contents of the museum, which mostly consisted of his extensive personal collections, were sold at auction by the administrators of his estate, Matthew Clarkson and Ebenezer Hazard, on March 10, 1785. The earliest American auctions rarely featured formal catalogues, and if a listing was published at all, it was often in the form of a printed broadside or circular that functioned as much as an advertisement as any sort of descriptive medium. The du Simitière sale was conducted with such a broadside serving as the catalogue. Following the headline, we read that “This curious Collection was, for many Years, the principal Object of Mr. Du Simitiere’s Attention, and has been thought worthy of Notice by both American and European Literati.” The sale included, as lot 19, the following:

A Mahogany Cabinet containing ancient and modern Gold, Silver and Copper Coins and Medals; among which are some very curious Bronzes.

The du Simitière sale also included (as lot 36) under the heading of AMERICAN MONEY, “A Collection of Parchment and Paper Money.” These two lots make the du Simitière sale the earliest auction sale yet identified of numismatic items in the United States for which a catalogue remains extant.

The disposition of the numismatic content of du Simitière’s collection is uncertain, though as Clarkson’s own estate sale (held October 29, 1800) included “a valuable cabinet, containing silver and copper coins, medals &c. some of which are very ancient,” it is considered probable that Clarkson himself was the buyer of

**On THURSDAY and FRIDAY, June 12th and 13th,**

*Will be sold at GEORGE NICHOLS' Office, Court Street, Salem, Mass.*

**2000 vols Books, 300 valuable Coins, & 500 Copper-plate Engravings**, belonging to the Estate of the late *BENJAMIN WATKINS, Esq.*—To be sold by order of Court.—Sale to commence on Thursday morning at 9 o'clock.

[illegible]

The broadside that served as the catalogue for George Nichols's June 1828 auction of "Books, Ancient Coins & Copperplate Engravings" from the Estate of Benjamin H. Watkins. *Photo courtesy of the American Numismatic Society.*



lot 19. The Library Company of Philadelphia, represented by Richard Wells, participated actively in the du Simitière sale, purchasing lots 5, 6, 8, 11a, 12, 17, 18, 24, 26, 30 and 31—but not the numismatic lots. According to John N. Lupia III, the Clarkson estate's coins were purchased by Philip Price, Jr., whose estate was sold in turn on February 24, 1813. Their subsequent ownership history remains unknown.

A small number of other collectors were active in the United States at this time. John C. Kunze (1744–1807) was a Lutheran minister educated at the University of Leipzig. He moved to Philadelphia in 1770, married, and established the Lutheran Theological Seminary. In 1800, he provided a detailed description of his extensive coin collection to Dr. Samuel Latham Mitchill, an editor of *The Medical Repository*, considered by some to be the first scientific journal published in this country. Kunze's letter is possibly the only published 18th-century account of a coin cabinet formed by an American collector. He writes that "It would be the extravagance of curiosity, bordering on the lust of the eyes, had I made this collection only for my own two eyes. I can therefore have nothing against its publication, provided it is well remembered, that I do not attach any idea of greatness to it." He does admit that for New York it is a large collection and "at any rate, the foundation for a good one is laid."

Kunze's collection was heavily composed of modern (i.e., post-Renaissance) European coins and medals, though some American pieces were included, as were a number of ancient silver coins:

one with the word triumviri, and the prow of a ship, which is on the most ancient Roman coins, pointing at Janus, who arrived in Italy by sea. A piece with the Pythia sitting on the trevet. One with the inscription, Cai. Jul. Caesaris divi patris Filius Augustus. One with, victoria Augusti; and, of the reverse, imperator Caes. Augustus Css. iiii. of consequence, that struck in memory of his Actium-victory, which gave him the supreme power. The image of the emperor is very expressive and clear. Others are of different emperors and kings. Those of Alexander Severus are of base metal. Pinkerton asserts that he began to strike such money. Three are of his wife, in confirmation of history, which says that she meddled much with the government of the State. Several are of Hadrian, one of Galienus, of the basest metal. One of Marcus Aurelius, and another of his detestable consort Faustina. One of Domitian, whose copper coins are common, but those of silver very rare. Here is likewise an Otho, and one of Trajan, with optimus Princeps; and, of the reverse, rex Parthar. which belongs to the most valuable.

The bronzes included many common pieces, "but one of Germanicus, son of Nero Drusus and Antonia, Pinkerton values at £15 sterling." Kunze's collection was donated to the New-York Historical Society in 1818 by his widow. Unfortunately, Robert Hendre Kelby's 1905 history of the Society states that the collection was eventually stolen from that institution, "nothing remaining but the cabinet which held the coins and medals."



The famous Watkins Broadside is a single-sheet catalogue compiled by George Nichols, of Salem, Massachusetts, offering the property of Benjamin H. Watkins to be sold on June 12–13, 1828. It is the earliest sale to have been listed by Emmanuel Joseph Attinelli in his 1876 *Numisgraphics*, the foundational bibliography of American numismatic publications. It included the following:

350 COINS—among which are the following:

Julius Caesar  
 Augustus Caesar  
 Tiberius Caesar  
 Claudius  
 Adrian, 2  
 Gallienus  
 An Athenian Coin  
 Gandianus  
 Juba



Signed *carte de visite* of Emmanuel Joseph Attinelli, the first bibliographer of American numismatic publications.

While more detailed than what we are given in the du Simitière broadside, the precision of these descriptions obviously leaves much to be desired. It is to be noted, however, that both of these early American collections included ancient coins.

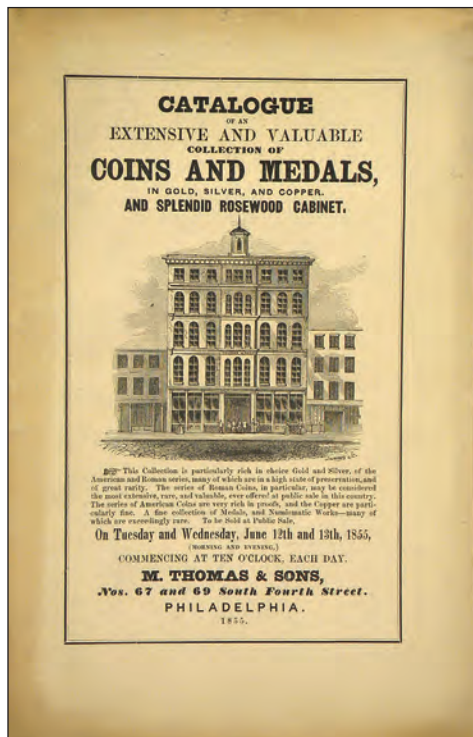
In general, the lot descriptions in American auction catalogues before the 1850s provide minimal information: they were only intended to be guides for people attending the auction, the days of mail bids, agents and the use of auction catalogues as reference materials being in the future. It is not until the decade immediately preceding the Civil War (1861–1865) that lot descriptions begin to improve, allowing today's numismatic researchers to make fuller use of them.

Martin Gengerke, in his exhaustive listing of U.S. numismatic auction catalogues, lists only 95 sales held before the Civil War. Many of these sales featured only one or two numismatic lots, usually described in the barest possible terms. However, there are a few exceptions. The sale of the Dr. Lewis Roper collection, conducted by the auction house of M. Thomas and Sons of Philadelphia on February 20, 1851, is especially important. While it was not the first coin sale to be held in this country, Attinelli wrote in *Numisgraphics* that it was the earliest “in which sufficient interest was manifested by numismatists to take note of the prices paid

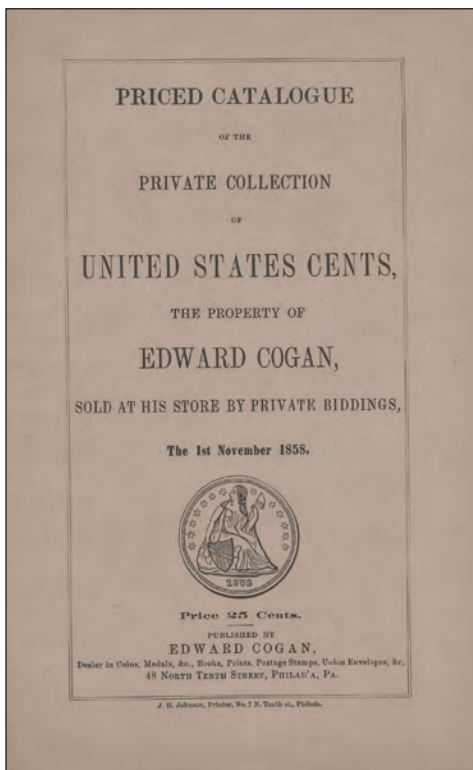
for coins, and who were the purchasers.” Overall, the sale was a success, realizing \$1,172.47, the highest price a numismatic auction had ever brought in the United States. Included within were over 200 lots of ancient silver and bronze coins, and copies of the catalogue exist recording the names of the buyers of these pieces, who included Joseph J. Mickley, Richard Wistar Davids, and Alfred B. Taylor. While I am unaware of anyone having traced an ancient coin’s provenance back to the Roper sale, the notion that the possibility exists is certainly intriguing. To the best of my knowledge, only one item (Roper’s copy of Dumersan’s *Numismatique du voyage du jeune Anacharsis*) is definitively traceable back to this landmark sale.

The collection of John W. Kline was offered at auction on June 12–13, 1855, in Philadelphia. Numismatic historian Joel J. Orosz has written that “there can be no disputing the statement that the Kline sale was the most significant numismatic auction in America before the Civil War.” The catalogue, published by the M. Thomas and Sons auction firm, broke the 100-page mark (counting two addenda), and brought \$2,062.80, making it the new record holder for the most valuable coin collection to be sold at auction in the United States. The sale was strong in Roman coins (lots 780–1159), but what is really distinctive about it was the quality of the cataloguing. Legends are spelled out, devices described, dates noted—in some cases even weights are provided. While the unnamed cataloguer fails to cite sources in the body of the text, it is revealing that the sale’s offerings included a copy of the 1847 third edition of Mionnet’s *De la rareté et du prix des médailles romaines*, which would have been extremely useful in composing the catalogue, as well as the more general guides of Pinkerton, Akerman and Cooke. Sale catalogues offered in the auction include those of the Morton, Durrant, and Duke of Devonshire collections, among others. The Kline sale marked a dramatic improvement in the utility of American auction catalogues; for a similar improvement, we must move forward into the era of illustrated catalogues.

The years following the Kline sale saw the establishment of the first



The 1855 auction of the John W. Kline collection boasted the longest catalogue (over 100 pages) and highest proceeds (over \$2000) of any American coin sale held to that date.



The catalogue of Edward Cogan's first sale, held in his shop from a manuscript catalogue on November 1, 1858, with submitted bids being opened on that date; the catalogue was not actually printed until 1863, when it was published as a reference.

numismatic organizations in the United States, with the Numismatic Society of Philadelphia forming in 1857 and the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society in 1858. These years also witnessed the rise of the first American coin dealers. In 1857, Augustus B. Sage and John K. Curtis entered the business, to be followed the next year by Edward Cogan and Montroville Dickeson. Alfred E. Robinson, Henry Cook and Ebenezer Locke Mason followed soon after. Cogan remained in the business through December 1879, outlasting his earlier colleagues and allowing him gradually to take on the mantle of having been the first coin dealer in the United States, though this wasn't quite true. It was Cogan, however, who introduced the photographically illustrated numismatic auction catalogue to the country in 1869.

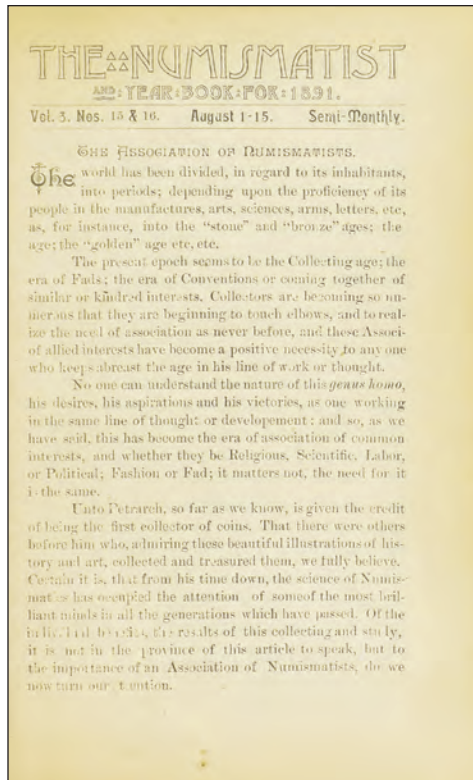
The 1860s and 1870s were in many ways the rambunctious childhood and adolescence of the hobby in the United States, though there was a growing seriousness and even scholasticism in some quarters. Dealers such as W. El-

liot Woodward and William H. Strobridge expanded upon the terse descriptions one would find in Cogan catalogues and were more willing to accept the task of cataloguing substantial specialized collections. Strobridge in particular had a reputation for spurning the tastes of the day, which centered mostly on U.S. coinage, focusing instead on ancient and European coins. His catalogues are of remarkably high quality and erudition.

The 1880s and 1890s saw a growing professionalism in the American numismatic trade. To brothers Samuel Hudson Chapman and Henry Chapman, prominent coin dealers in Philadelphia, can be given much of the credit for this trend, as they led the way by example with a lengthy series of remarkably well-produced sale catalogues. While they were not without their detractors, the Chapman catalogues set a new standard in the fledgling profession, coupling knowledgeable descriptions with consistently high production standards, often including photo-

graphically printed illustrations. They were not alone in this regard, as Elliot Woodward, who had focused his attention elsewhere for much of the 1870s, had returned to numismatics full-time by the 1880s and was regularly issuing excellent catalogues often illustrated with photographic plates. Ed Frossard, a Swiss immigrant and French language teacher in New York, had also arrived on the scene, adding a somewhat more cosmopolitan flair to his profession. The American Numismatic Association was founded in 1891, providing another resource for the growing number of American collectors.

Martin Gengerke lists 238 numismatic auctions with printed catalogues as having taken place during the 1860s. During the 1870s, this number remained essentially stagnant at 241. For the 1880s, however, some 489 sales are known. This explosion of activity brought about improvements in the quality of auction catalogues, as competition for the best consignments grew more fierce. Descriptions became more accurate and professional, better paper was (sometimes) used, and catalogues were more frequently illustrated. This last aspect was due partly to the increased professionalism of the field, but was also attributable to improvements in printing technology.



The American Numismatic Association was organized in 1891 through the pages of Dr. George F. Heath's periodical *The Numismatist*, which later became the ANA's official organ. *Photo courtesy of the Newman Numismatic Portal.*

## PHOTOGRAPHIC PRINTING PROCESSES

Much confusion exists over the terminology to be employed when discussing the plates found in early coin catalogues. The earliest photographically illustrated auction catalogues were exactly that—illustrated with photographs. The coins were photographed and multiple albumen prints made from the photographic negative. These prints were then mounted, usually on card stock, and bound with the catalogue. They were not produced on a printing press.





A mounted albumen photographic print illustrating pieces offered in William Strobridge's December 1871 auction catalogue of the collection of Dr. Charles Clay. *Photo courtesy of the Newman Numismatic Portal.*

Illustrating a publication in this manner was expensive, however, and somewhat laborious (especially for productions requiring print runs beyond the modest numbers required for coin catalogues). What was needed was a way to reproduce photographic images through a photomechanical process, so that the illustrations could be printed in essentially the same way that text was printed. The search for such a technique led to the development of the collotype process.

Collotypes are produced with a printing plate coated in gelatin into which potassium bichromate has been mixed. The gelatin mixture is highly photosensitive once it has dried; when exposed to light through a photographic negative, it captures even very subtle variations in shade. The bichromate is rinsed away, leaving a surface that will retain ink to the degree that it remains coated in gelatin. While the collotype process was first developed in France in the mid-1850s, it did not become commercially viable until it was mechanized in Germany in the late 1860s. The result-

ing plates had a limited lifespan, perhaps being capable of making 1000 to 1500 prints. The process's ability to accurately reproduce tonal values and gradations of lighting led to its frequent use in illustrating works of art, and the limitation in number of impressions did not diminish its utility for publications with smaller print runs. Its application to coin photography followed naturally.

Over the following decades, a number of printers, photographers and inventors developed their own variations on the collotype process. Some of these refinements focused on extending the durability of the resulting printing plate, while others were more concerned with adjusting the chemical mixture to enhance the final results. These were invariably given proprietary names, and herein lies the confusion. Between Albertypes and Heliotypes, Artotypes and Autotypes, Phototypes and Woodburytypes, one can easily be led to the conclusion that one needs to be either a chemist or a master printer to tell the difference between the various

plates. On some level that's true, but the point is that it is unnecessary—all of these are collotypes (the German and French generic terms are *Lichtdruck* and *phototypie*, respectively). Unless one is planning on printing one's own, that is information sufficient for us to proceed.

Illustration by collotype became the norm in American plated auction catalogues of the 1880s and 1890s. These could be and often were tinted to approximate the color of the coin, but this rarely succeeds from an aesthetic perspective—and occasionally one sees plates that are downright marred by such tinting, especially when done in gold. In an era before widespread coin photography, and when few well-illustrated references existed, photographically illustrated auction catalogues filled a void in the hobby that is difficult for us to imagine.

For American catalogues, however, this march of progress ground to a halt in 1897. The Chapman Brothers were preparing their catalogue of the M.A. Brown collection, and planned to illustrate it with high-quality photographic plates. S.H. Chapman had developed a serious interest in photography, and this was to be the



Examples of successful and unsuccessful tinting of collotype plates: (left) the 1891 Chapman Brothers catalogue of the Boeing & Bridgman collection; (right) the 1892 New York Coin & Stamp Company sale of the Woodside & Oliver collections. *Photos courtesy of the American Numismatic Society and the Newman Numismatic Portal.*

pair's first illustrated catalogue that would not rely on collotype plates. A change in the interpretation of federal anti-counterfeiting laws, however, led to their glass negatives being seized and photographic reproduction of United States coins to be effectively banned. The ban stood in place until 1904, when the Chapman Brothers successfully challenged it. As they wrote in the introduction to their gloriously illustrated catalogue of the John G. Mills collection:

We have abandoned the autotype process, as it was unsatisfactory and too uncertain, and employed that which we had in view in 1895 [*sic*] for the Brown collection, when the ignorant Treasury officials extended the law on counterfeiting to include the publication of Numismatic books and stopped our issuance of the plates for that collection; but last year the Senior member of the firm, single handed, secured the passage through Congress of an amendment to this law, exempting Numismatic books and circulars of legitimate dealers, and we are now again able to give the distant collector the opportunity of seeing with his own eyes, exact photographic images of the coins, and a perpetual visual record of the collection. By this process we have secured finer work with absolutely perfect detail, than has heretofore been the result from any of the autotype processes. Collectors may use high power magnifying glasses, in fact we would advise the use of a large reading glass in looking at the plates and which could not be used on the autotype or half tone methods of printing. We believe we have finer results than have ever been published of photographs of coins. To obtain the white back-ground which has heretofore been used, it was necessary to paint out on the negative, the original surface surrounding the coins and the perfection of the outline of every coin depended on the care and steadiness of the hand that did the brush work. We have also abandoned this method of working and the coins are shown with their own original edges.

While other dealers continued to rely on collotype processes, the Chapman Brothers led the way in the use of modern photographic prints to illustrate their catalogues, and S.H. Chapman's efforts to overturn the ban that had been in place since 1897 improved the numismatic field for all concerned. (It is amusing to note that Lyman Low managed to sneak a single federal coin—an 1804 large cent—onto Plate 2 of his May 23–24, 1898 sale of Part I of the Col. Cutting collection, among a variety of other types of coins.) Tom Elder held out for a few years before he also switched to actual photographic plates, some of them produced by Edgar H. Adams. Other dealers, particularly ones who began in business after the ban was lifted, relied on inexpensive halftones, leaving photographic plates to their more sophisticated colleagues.

## EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN PRACTICE

The American method of illustrating coin catalogues in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries differs from the usual European practice in a few ways.

From the beginning of their experimentation with photographic illustrations, European cataloguers developed a strong preference not only for collotype illustrations, but collotypes of plaster casts of the coins being illustrated. There are advantages to such an approach, the most obvious being consistency. It is much easier to take a photograph of a group of small items if those items have a uniform color and surface. The focus can be more carefully adjusted so that all objects are equally distinct, and inconsistencies in coloration do not diminish the clarity of the resulting photograph. This is why the use of casts in collotypes is so useful for reference works such as die studies, where the illumination of exact detail is more important than depicting the surface characteristics of individual coins.

The attitude in the United States was generally to favor accurate depictions of the specific coins being offered over consistency of appearance and uniformity of tone. Plaster casts have occasionally been used in American catalogues, but they have never been popular and were widely distrusted. The gold standard in the United States has always been the full-tone photographic plate, despite their expense making them impractical for most catalogues. Collotypes were always acceptable, but they had to show the coins for sale, not cast impressions of them.

This emphasis on photographically depicting the coin instead of the cast makes classic American auction catalogues of exceptional utility in tracing provenances. Variations in color, minor surface blemishes, slightly uneven edges—all are details that can be essential when attempting to plate-match a specific coin, but ones that can easily be lost when working from photographs of casts. While one cannot but acknowledge the fact that pre-WWII European auction catalogues, taken as a group, are superior in their coverage of ancient coins to their American cousins, it is my hope that the following pages show that the American catalogues have more to offer than expected.



A fine collotype plate from Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge's February 13, 1878 sale of material consigned by the Bank of England and the British Museum, unlisted in Spring and predating his earliest listed catalogue. Photo courtesy of Theodore V. Buttrey.



Mortimer L. Mackenzie, the owner of the coins depicted in the first photographically illustrated numismatic auction catalogue published in the United States. *Photo courtesy of the American Numismatic Society.*



## SUMMARY TABLE—ALPHABETICAL

Company	Date	Vendor/Title
1. Bluestone, Barney	October 7–8, 1938	
2. Bluestone, Barney	January 13–14, 1939	
3. Bluestone, Barney	April 15, 1939	
4. Bolender, M.H.	September 29, 1937	Reis
5. Chapman Brothers	October 9, 1879	Chapman
6. Chapman Brothers	February 11–12, 1880	Bispham
7. Chapman Brothers	June 9–14, 1884	Warner
8. Chapman Brothers	May 14–15, 1885	Chapman
9. Chapman Brothers	December 9–13, 1890	Cleney
10. Chapman Brothers	November 27–28, 1891	Boeing, Bridgman
11. Chapman Brothers	April 5–6, 1892	King
12. Chapman Brothers	April 29–30, 1895	Chaloner
13. Chapman Brothers	July 7–8, 1904	Barker
14. Chapman Brothers	May 8–11, 1906	Smith
15. Chapman, Henry	April 22, 1911	Siedlecki
16. Chapman, Henry	June 25–29, 1912	Earle
17. Chapman, Henry	December 7–17, 1921	Jenks
18. Chapman, S.H.	June 21–23, 1909	Jewett
19. Chapman, S.H.	May 30–31, 1911	J. Brown
20. Chapman, S.H.	May 27–29, 1914	Gable
21. Chapman, S.H.	June 19–24, 1916	Gregory
22. Cogan, Edward	June 23–24, 1869	Mackenzie
23. Cogan, Edward	April 3–5, 1871	Montreal
24. Elder, Thomas L.	October 14–15, 1907	Levick et al.
25. Elder, Thomas L.	December 19, 1907	Chase et al.
26. Elder, Thomas L.	June 15–16, 1908	Gschwend
27. Elder, Thomas L.	October 5–7, 1908	J. Wilson
28. Elder, Thomas L.	November 12, 1909	Eckel
29. Elder, Thomas L.	February 7–8, 1910	Williams et al.
30. Elder, Thomas L.	September 27–28, 1912	Ormond
31. Elder, Thomas L.	December 6–8, 1917	Carlton et al.
32. Elder, Thomas L.	January 25–26, 1918	Hewitt, Bartlett
33. Elder, Thomas L.	March 20–23, 1918	McCoy et al.
34. Elder, Thomas L.	May 9–11, 1918	Wright, Pehrson
35. Elder, Thomas L.	April 30–May 1, 1920	Davis
36. Elder, Thomas L.	May 26–29, 1920	Miller
37. Elder, Thomas L.	July 9–10, 1920	Clare
38. Elder, Thomas L.	February 23–26, 1921	McMullin et al.
39. Elder, Thomas L.	June 26–28, 1929	Lawrence
40. Frossard, Ed	March 14, 1884	Marsh
41. Frossard, Ed	October 2–3, 1884	Frossard
42. Frossard, Ed	December 20, 1884	Smith

43. Frossard, Ed . . . . . July 16–17, 1885 . . . . . Orient
44. Frossard, Ed . . . . . May 24–25, 1887. . . . . Edwards
45. Frossard, Ed . . . . . December 26–28, 1888 . . . Hart
46. Frossard, Ed . . . . . March 12–13, 1889. . . . . Thayer
47. Frossard, Ed . . . . . April 13–14, 1892 . . . . . Saltmarsh
48. Haseltine, John W. . . . . February 25–28, 1873 . . . Chubbuck
49. Mehl, B. Max . . . . . June 22, 1907 . . . . . Edwards et al.
50. Mehl, B. Max . . . . . May 6, 1914 . . . . . Conover
51. Mehl, B. Max . . . . . July 14, 1914 . . . . . Lambert, Newcomer
52. Mehl, B. Max . . . . . December 12, 1922. . . . . Yoanna
53. Mehl, B. Max . . . . . March 27, 1928 . . . . . Rees
54. Michael & Bro., Fred. . . . . September 27–28, 1912 . . . Fake
55. Michael, Edward . . . . . February 18–19, 1916 . . . Freiler
56. New York Coin & Stamp Co. . . . . January 20–24, 1890. . . . . R.C. Davis
57. Raymond, Wayte . . . . . October 10, 1932 . . . . . Morosini
58. Raymond, Wayte . . . . . September 20, 1937
59. Raymond, Wayte . . . . . December 14, 1937
60. Raymond, Wayte . . . . . July 6, 1938
61. Raymond, Wayte . . . . . August 16, 1938
62. Raymond, Wayte . . . . . December 19, 1938
63. Raymond, Wayte . . . . . January 31, 1939
64. Raymond, Wayte . . . . . March 21, 1939
65. Raymond, Wayte . . . . . April 25, 1939
66. Raymond, Wayte . . . . . June 20, 1939
67. Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau] . . . January 12–13, 1934. . . . . Furst
68. Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau] . . . October 10, 1934 . . . . . Burrage, Brewster
69. Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau] . . . November 26, 1934 . . . . . Burrage
70. Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau] . . . May 9, 1935 . . . . . Burrage, Newcomer
71. Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau] . . . April 7–8, 1937 . . . . . Santos
72. Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau] . . . June 9, 1937 . . . . . Gillette, Troy
73. Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau] . . . March 15–16, 1938. . . . . Heifetz
74. Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau] . . . November 16, 1938 . . . . . Trigueros, Bucklin
75. Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau] . . . February 23–24, 1939 . . . Newcomer, Grey
76. Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau] . . . October 5–6, 1939
77. Scott, J.W. . . . . July 30–31, 1878 . . . . . Saalfelder
78. Scott, J.W. . . . . March 3–8, 1879. . . . . Schieffelin
79. Scott, J.W. . . . . June 27–28, 1895
80. Smith, Harlan P. . . . . January 30–31, 1883. . . . . Ferguson
81. Smith, Harlan P. . . . . March 16–17, 1883. . . . . Historical
82. Smith, Harlan P. . . . . July 12–13, 1883 . . . . . Hubbard
83. Smith, Harlan P. . . . . June 4–5, 1885. . . . . Douglas
84. Stack's. . . . . January 20–22, 1938. . . . . Faeltén
85. Stack's. . . . . January 27–28, 1939. . . . . McKenzie, Proskey
86. Stack's. . . . . June 3–10, 1939
87. Strobridge, W. . . . . September 24–27, 1873 . . . MacAllister



88. Strobbridge, W. . . . .	October 6–9, 1874 . . . . .	Middleton
89. Woodward, W. Elliot. . . . .	January 10–13, 1881. . . . .	Jenks
90. Woodward, W. Elliot. . . . .	March 6–11, 1882. . . . .	Dohrmann
91. Woodward, W. Elliot. . . . .	June 6–7, 1882. . . . .	Washburn
92. Woodward, W. Elliot. . . . .	July 24–25, 1884 . . . . .	European
93. Woodward, W. Elliot. . . . .	December 29–31, 1884 . . . . .	Lermann
94. Woodward, W. Elliot. . . . .	September 10–13, 1888 . . . . .	Vicksburg II
95. Woodward, W. Elliot. . . . .	October 25, 1888 . . . . .	Vicksburg III
96. Woodward, W. Elliot. . . . .	February 4–5, 1889. . . . .	Vicksburg IV

## SUMMARY TABLE—CHRONOLOGICAL

Date	Company	Vendor/Title
22. June 23–24, 1869 . . . . .	Cogan, Edward . . . . .	Mackenzie
23. April 3–5, 1871. . . . .	Cogan, Edward . . . . .	Montreal
48. February 25–28, 1873 . . . . .	Haseltine, John W. . . . .	Chubbuck
87. September 24–27, 1873 . . . . .	Strobbridge, W. . . . .	MacAllister
88. October 6–9, 1874. . . . .	Strobbridge, W. . . . .	Middleton
77. July 30–31, 1878. . . . .	Scott, J.W. . . . .	Saalfelder
78. March 3–8, 1879 . . . . .	Scott, J.W. . . . .	Schieffelin
5. October 9, 1879 . . . . .	Chapman Brothers . . . . .	Chapman
6. February 11–12, 1880 . . . . .	Chapman Brothers . . . . .	Bispham
89. January 10–13, 1881 . . . . .	Woodward, W. Elliot . . . . .	Jenks
90. March 6–11, 1882 . . . . .	Woodward, W. Elliot . . . . .	Dohrmann
91. June 6–7, 1882 . . . . .	Woodward, W. Elliot . . . . .	Washburn
80. January 30–31, 1883 . . . . .	Smith, Harlan P. . . . .	Ferguson
81. March 16–17, 1883 . . . . .	Smith, Harlan P. . . . .	Historical
82. July 12–13, 1883. . . . .	Smith, Harlan P. . . . .	Hubbard
40. March 14, 1884 . . . . .	Frossard, Ed . . . . .	Marsh
7. June 9–14, 1884 . . . . .	Chapman Brothers . . . . .	Warner
92. July 24–25, 1884. . . . .	Woodward, W. Elliot . . . . .	European
41. October 2–3, 1884. . . . .	Frossard, Ed . . . . .	Frossard
42. December 20, 1884 . . . . .	Frossard, Ed . . . . .	Smith
93. December 29–31, 1884. . . . .	Woodward, W. Elliot . . . . .	Lermann
8. May 14–15, 1885 . . . . .	Chapman Brothers . . . . .	Chapman
83. June 4–5, 1885 . . . . .	Smith, Harlan P. . . . .	Douglas
43. July 16–17, 1885. . . . .	Frossard, Ed . . . . .	Orient
44. May 24–25, 1887 . . . . .	Frossard, Ed . . . . .	Edwards
94. September 10–13, 1888 . . . . .	Woodward, W. Elliot . . . . .	Vicksburg II
95. October 25, 1888 . . . . .	Woodward, W. Elliot . . . . .	Vicksburg III
45. December 26–28, 1888. . . . .	Frossard, Ed . . . . .	Hart
96. February 4–5, 1889 . . . . .	Woodward, W. Elliot . . . . .	Vicksburg IV

46. March 12–13, 1889 . . . . . Frossard, Ed . . . . . Thayer  
 56. January 20–24, 1890 . . . . . New York Coin & Stamp Co. . . . . R.C. Davis  
 9. December 9–13, 1890 . . . . . Chapman Brothers . . . . . Cleneay  
 10. November 27–28, 1891 . . . . . Chapman Brothers . . . . . Boeing, Bridgman  
 11. April 5–6, 1892 . . . . . Chapman Brothers . . . . . King  
 42. April 13–14, 1892 . . . . . Frossard, Ed . . . . . Saltmarsh  
 12. April 29–30, 1895 . . . . . Chapman Brothers . . . . . Chaloner  
 79. June 27–28, 1895 . . . . . Scott, J.W.  
 13. July 7–8, 1904 . . . . . Chapman Brothers . . . . . Barker  
 14. May 8–11, 1906 . . . . . Chapman Brothers . . . . . Smith  
 49. June 22, 1907 . . . . . Mehl, B. Max . . . . . Edwards et al.  
 24. October 14–15, 1907 . . . . . Elder, Thomas L. . . . . Levick et al.  
 25. December 19, 1907 . . . . . Elder, Thomas L. . . . . Chase et al.  
 26. June 15–16, 1908 . . . . . Elder, Thomas L. . . . . Gschwend  
 27. October 5–7, 1908 . . . . . Elder, Thomas L. . . . . J. Wilson  
 18. June 21–23, 1909 . . . . . Chapman, S.H. . . . . Jewett  
 28. November 12, 1909 . . . . . Elder, Thomas L. . . . . Eckel  
 29. February 7–8, 1910 . . . . . Elder, Thomas L. . . . . Williams et al.  
 15. April 22, 1911 . . . . . Chapman, Henry. . . . . Siedlecki  
 19. May 30–31, 1911 . . . . . Chapman, S.H. . . . . J. Brown  
 16. June 25–29, 1912 . . . . . Chapman, Henry. . . . . Earle  
 30. September 27–28, 1912 . . . . . Elder, Thomas L. . . . . Ormond  
 54. September 27–28, 1912 . . . . . Michael & Bro., Fred. . . . . Fake  
 50. May 6, 1914 . . . . . Mehl, B. Max . . . . . Conover  
 20. May 27–29, 1914 . . . . . Chapman, S.H. . . . . Gable  
 51. July 14, 1914 . . . . . Mehl, B. Max . . . . . Lambert, Newcomer  
 55. February 18–19, 1916 . . . . . Michael, Edward . . . . . Freiler  
 21. June 19–24, 1916 . . . . . Chapman, S.H. . . . . Gregory  
 31. December 6–8, 1917 . . . . . Elder, Thomas L. . . . . Carlton et al.  
 32. January 25–26, 1918 . . . . . Elder, Thomas L. . . . . Hewitt, Bartlett  
 33. March 20–23, 1918 . . . . . Elder, Thomas L. . . . . McCoy et al.  
 34. May 9–11, 1918 . . . . . Elder, Thomas L. . . . . Wright, Pehrson  
 35. April 30–May 1, 1920 . . . . . Elder, Thomas L. . . . . Davis  
 36. May 26–29, 1920 . . . . . Elder, Thomas L. . . . . Miller  
 37. July 9–10, 1920 . . . . . Elder, Thomas L. . . . . Clare  
 38. February 23–26, 1921 . . . . . Elder, Thomas L. . . . . McMullin et al.  
 17. December 7–17, 1921 . . . . . Chapman, Henry. . . . . Jenks  
 52. December 12, 1922 . . . . . Mehl, B. Max . . . . . Yoanna  
 53. March 27, 1928 . . . . . Mehl, B. Max . . . . . Rees  
 39. June 26–28, 1929 . . . . . Elder, Thomas L. . . . . Lawrence  
 57. October 10, 1932 . . . . . Raymond, Wayte. . . . . Morosini  
 67. January 12–13, 1934 . . . . . Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau]. . . . . Furst  
 68. October 10, 1934 . . . . . Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau]. . . . . Burrage, Brewster  
 69. November 26, 1934 . . . . . Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau]. . . . . Burrage  
 70. May 9, 1935 . . . . . Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau]. . . . . Burrage, Newcomer

71. April 7–8, 1937 . . . . .	Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau]. . . .	Santos
72. June 9, 1937 . . . . .	Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau]. . . .	Gillette, Troy
58. September 20, 1937 . . . . .	Raymond, Wayte	
4. September 29, 1937 . . . . .	Bolender, M.H. . . . .	Reis
59. December 14, 1937 . . . . .	Raymond, Wayte	
84. January 20–22, 1938 . . . . .	Stack's . . . . .	Faelten
73. March 15–16, 1938 . . . . .	Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau]. . . .	Heifetz
60. July 6, 1938 . . . . .	Raymond, Wayte	
61. August 16, 1938 . . . . .	Raymond, Wayte	
1. October 7–8, 1938 . . . . .	Bluestone, Barney	
74. November 16, 1938 . . . . .	Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau]. . . .	Trigueros, Bucklin
62. December 19, 1938 . . . . .	Raymond, Wayte	
2. January 13–14, 1939 . . . . .	Bluestone, Barney	
85. January 27–28, 1939 . . . . .	Stack's . . . . .	McKenzie, Proskey
63. January 31, 1939 . . . . .	Raymond, Wayte	
75. February 23–24, 1939 . . . .	Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau]. . . .	Newcomer, Grey
64. March 21, 1939 . . . . .	Raymond, Wayte	
3. April 15, 1939 . . . . .	Bluestone, Barney	
65. April 25, 1939 . . . . .	Raymond, Wayte	
86. June 3–10, 1939 . . . . .	Stack's	
66. June 20, 1939 . . . . .	Raymond, Wayte	
76. October 5–6, 1939 . . . . .	Raymond & Macallister [Morgenthau]	



Barney Bluestone

## BARNEY BLUESTONE

Bernard (Barney) Bluestone was born in Minsk, Russia, probably in 1894 (though some sources say 1893). He emigrated to the United States as an adolescent, arriving in New York on the ship *Moscow* with his family on August 6, 1907. While he spent most of his life in Brooklyn or Syracuse, New York, as a young man he lived as far afield as San Antonio, Texas, and Rison, Arkansas. A “defective limb” noted on his draft registration would appear to have kept him from serving in the First World War, and he is described in his Declaration of Intention to become a U.S. citizen as “slightly lame.” He is recorded as working as a clerk in 1914, a self-employed vendor in 1917, a dry goods merchant in 1920, and the proprietor of a hardware store in 1930. He was married and had at least three children.

Bluestone began operating as a professional numismatist by 1926, presumably as a sideline. By 1929, he was issuing printed fixed price lists, of which he published at least thirty-four through 1950. In 1931, he began issuing auction catalogues, and this became the backbone of his business. Bluestone conducted 117 auction sales during his career. Sales 17–22 were conducted with Frank O. Brown as the Salt City Coin Company of Syracuse, New York, a corporate designation Bluestone continued to use through Sale 27 before reverting back to his own name. The highlight of his career was handling the magnificent collection of United States paper money formed by Albert A. Grinnell and sold by Bluestone in a series of eight auction sales. The collected catalogues remain a core reference in that field. While he moved to Miami, Florida, in 1950, winding down his numismatic career shortly thereafter, the Social Security Death Index records his last known residence as Brooklyn. He died in December 1967.

Bluestone is not remembered today for his involvement with ancient coins, which made up a very small part of his business. Nor is he known for his plated auction catalogues: only four of his 117 auction catalogues are illustrated at all, with Sales 41–43 and 45 including halftone plates. However, of those four catalogues, three of them include depictions of ancient coins, hence his inclusion here.

1. Bluestone, Barney. **FORTY-FIRST CATALOGUE OF RARE COINS, TOKENS, MEDALS, PAPER MONEY, ETC.** Syracuse: Hotel Syracuse, October 7–8, 1938. 8vo, printed orange card covers. 79, (1) pages including integral bidsheet; 2227 lots; 12 halftone plates.

The first of only four Bluestone catalogues featuring halftone plates. This sale includes ancient coins on three plates. Plate 7 depicts aurei of Marcus Aurelius and Lucius Verus, and a barbaric imitation of the stater of Philip II with a biga reverse; it also depicts Byzantine, Kushan, Gupta and Sassanian gold coins. Plate 8 is entirely devoted to ancient silver coins, mostly Greek with a couple of Roman, including a dekadrachm of Ptolemy II Philadelphos in the name of Arsinoe II, a Bar Kokhba shekel, and a cistophorus of Augustus. Plate 9 includes nine Roman bronze coins, mostly sestertii.

**References:** Adams 41 (rated B+ overall, B– for ancients). Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.





PLATE VIII



2. Bluestone, Barney. **FORTY-SECOND CATALOGUE OF RARE COINS, TOKENS, MEDALS, PAPER MONEY, ETC.** Syracuse: Hotel Syracuse, January 13–14, 1939. 8vo, printed green card covers. 72 pages including integral bidsheet; 2075 lots; 4 halftone plates.

Plate 3 depicts (among other coins) lots 1683 and 1684, Roman aurei of Tiberius and Constantius II, which sold for \$15.25 and \$7.25, respectively.

**References:** Adams 42 (rated B+ overall, unrated for ancients).



PLATE III

3. Bluestone, Barney. **FORTY-THIRD CATALOGUE OF RARE COINS, TOKENS, MEDALS, PAPER MONEY, ETC.** Syracuse: Hotel Syracuse, April 15, 1939. 8vo, printed orange card covers. 55, (1) pages including integral bidsheet; 1465 lots; 6 halftone plates.

The first plate includes four ancient coins (lots 1267, 1270, 1273 and 1287), namely a denarius of Mark Antony, a denarius of Diadumenian, a shekel of the Bar Kokhba Revolt, and an Athenian tetradrachm. Plate 2 depicts lot 1261, a sestertius of Julius Caesar and Octavian.

**References:** Adams 43 (rated A– overall, unrated for ancients).





PLATE I



Milferd H. Bolender



## MILFERD H. BOLENDER

Milferd Henry Bolender was born on August 23, 1894 in Orangeville, Illinois. During the First World War, he served in the 87th Infantry Division from May 1918 to January 1919, attaining the rank of Corporal. After the war, he became a school teacher, but began trading in coins as a side business as early as 1919. His career in education continued through 1932, by which point he had become an administrator and principal. In 1937, he married Lily Hillquist. The couple had no children.

In the early years of his numismatic career, Bolender preferred the fixed price list as a vehicle for sales. Beginning in 1925, however, he began conducting auction sales on a regular basis, holding 197 numbered auction sales through September 1960 (his first nine catalogues remain unidentified). He conducted the American Numismatic Association Convention sale for 1929. In 1935 and 1936, he sold the collection of Martin Luther Beistle, author of the then-standard work on United States half dollars, and also handled material from the estates of A.M. Smith and Alexander P. Wylie. In 1950, Bolender published the first edition of *The United States Early Silver Dollars from 1794 to 1803*, which remained the standard work on the subject for many years. On Christmas Day 1951, Bolender woke to find that two feet of snow had fallen in a blizzard. Expecting twenty visiting relatives, he shoveled snow for two hours, bringing on a coronary thrombosis. He survived, but the experience slowed him down. Moving to California, Bolender sold his own collection in his Sale 183 in 1952 and retired in 1960. He died in 1977 at the age of 83.

Bolender is not remembered for his involvement with ancient coins, being from the beginning of his career a specialist in U.S. coinage. Only a handful of his sales included any ancient coins of note, and the sale listed below is the only one that is illustrated. Indeed, this sale is in fact his only illustrated catalogue—even the catalogue of his own collection, offered in 1952 when most coin sales featured some photographs, is entirely unillustrated.

4. Bolender, M.H. 110TH AUCTION SALE OF RARE COINS, MEDALS AND PAPER MONEY. CHOICE ANCIENT GREEK AND ROMAN COINS FROM A PROMINENT EUROPEAN CABINET AND THE EXTENSIVE COLLECTION OF AMERICAN COINS OF MR. C.P. REIS, OF ST. PAUL, MINN. Orangeville, September 29, 1937. 8vo, printed orange card covers. 52 pages; 1127 lots; pagination includes 3 halftone plates entirely devoted to ancient Greek and Roman coins.

Bolender's only plated catalogue—a mail-bid sale, the first 367 lots of which are ancient coins. The three plates depict both sides of thirty-one ancient Greek and Roman coins, the first two being devoted to Greek silver pieces while the last features seven sestertii of Agrippina the Elder, Vespasian, Antoninus Pius (two pieces), Faustina the Younger, Lucius Verus, and Julia Domna. The “Prominent European Cabinet” from which these coins derive is unknown. While it seems improbable that they would wind up in the hands of a mid-level coin dealer in Illinois, the influx of European immigrants into the United States at this time makes such a scenario possible. Bolender included the following notice in his introduction to this sale:

Note — We take special pride and pleasure in offering to the coin collecting public in this country the finest classic Ancient Greek and Roman coins that we have come across for many years. All are genuine works of art, and guaranteed. Collectors will do well to take this opportunity to secure at least a few specimens. All of these gems lay for years in the cabinet of one of the leading collectors of Europe, who recently died in Germany. All have, therefore, been off the market for years.

**References:** Adams 110 (rated C+ overall, B for ancients). Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.



287



289



307



308



317



319



327





The Chapman Brothers, 1890. *Photo courtesy of Robert A. Schuman, M.D.*

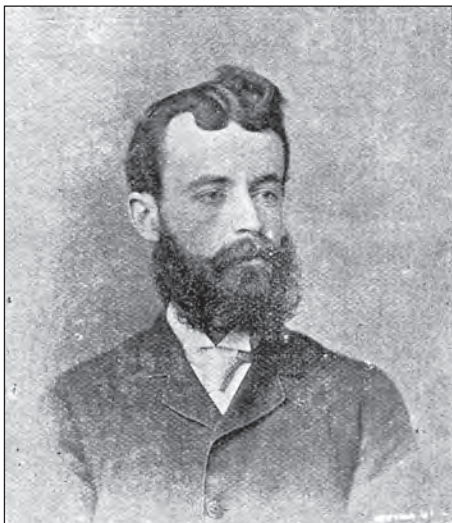
## THE CHAPMAN BROTHERS (SAMUEL HUDSON & HENRY)

The brothers Samuel Hudson Chapman (1857–1931) and Henry Chapman (1859–1935) had a profound effect on the development of the numismatic trade in the United States in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The pair began their professional involvement in numismatics in their teens, working briefly for John Haseltine before establishing their own firm. Their initial publication was a fixed price list issued in September 1878. Modest but professional in appearance, it was exclusively devoted to ancient coins. This *Catalogue of Fine Ancient Greek Gold & Silver and a Few Fine Roman Coins* boasted, according to their introduction, “no less than fifty tetradrachms, among them a magnificent Perseus.” Their first auction catalogue followed soon after, offering over 600 lots of ancient, foreign, and American coins and medals. The sale was held in New York, the center of the American numismatic scene at the time. In 1885 the pair decided to begin holding their auctions in their native Philadelphia, a practice they continued, with few exceptions, for the rest of their careers.

The careers of the Chapman Brothers were in many ways the culmination of the advances made in the U.S. numismatic trade in the two decades leading up to their start in business. They were not the first to offer detailed, carefully crafted descriptions, nor did they begin the practice of issuing catalogues with photographic plates. They were not alone in their willingness to handle coins from all times and places, or to travel abroad on buying trips. They were not the only numismatists who wished to tend both to the established connoisseur as well as to the developing collector. The Chapman Brothers managed to combine all of these attributes into one firm, however—a feat that no one else had yet accomplished. They brought a genuine love for numismatics that was remarkably broad, with enthusiasm that could be applied to fields as disparate as archaic Greek silver and American paper money, as well as a scholarly aspect that appealed to the more cultured amateur.

They are perhaps most appreciated today for their plated auction catalogues. While that particular technical development was more than ten years old by the time they began to experiment with it, they quickly made it their own. Their first catalogue made use of the services of Frederick Gutekunst, the well-known Philadelphia photographer. Chapman catalogue plates are of higher and more uniform quality than those generally encountered in the 1870s, and as innovations in pho-





S.H. Chapman, as depicted in the February 1892 issue of *The Numismatist*, official publication of the American Numismatic Association (money.org).



Henry Chapman, as depicted in the April 1896 issue of *The Numismatist*, official publication of the American Numismatic Association (money.org).



The George H. Earle Sale, 1912

tographic printing processes continued to be made, the pair strove to implement them. Samuel Hudson developed a personal interest in photography, and his skills grew to the point where he took over their coin photography himself, even continuing this task for Henry after he and his brother parted professional ways. At its best, his coin photography is unsurpassed.

A listing of major sales conducted by the Chapmans, whether together or separately, would quickly become a tedious litany of names and dates. Restricting our scope to the field of ancient coins, we would have to give top honors to the Warner (1884), King (1892), Chaloner (1895), Earle (1912), and Jenks (1921) sales. The last two—Earle and Jenks—were catalogued by Henry alone and include far more plates than the earlier sales: the Earle catalogue has 39 plates (of which nine are devoted to ancient coins) while the massive Jenks sale has 42 plates (six focusing on ancients). With careers that spanned half a century, the Chapman Brothers were instrumental in the transformation of the numismatic trade in the United States from the often unruly muddle of the early years to something approaching gentility.

5. Chapman, S.H. & H. CATALOGUE OF A VERY FINE COLLECTION OF ANCIENT GREEK AND ROMAN, GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZE, FOREIGN AND UNITED STATES COINS AND MEDALS, THE PROPERTY OF AND CATALOGUED BY S.H. & H. CHAPMAN. New York: Bangs & Co., October 9, 1879. 8vo, printed light blue paper covers. (2), 33, (1) pages; 604 lots; 4 collotype plates with tissue guards.

The first Chapman Brothers sale. The illustrated edition included four photographically printed plates prepared by photographer Frederick Gutekunst, best known to numismatists today for the large folding plate he produced to accompany Edward Maris's *A Historical Sketch of the Coins of New Jersey* (1881). The first plate is entirely devoted to ancient coins, and includes the obverse and reverse of a gold stater of Philip II of Macedonia (lot 231 at \$16), a gold trichryson (pentadrachm) of Ptolemy II depicting Ptolemy I Soter (lot 233, which sold for an impressive \$50), and an aureus of Lucius Verus (lot 239 at \$26.50). Plate 2 shows the obverses of four Roman silver coins, including a denarius of Julius Caesar and Sepullius Macer (lot 324 at \$5).

**References:** Adams 1 (rated B overall, B for ancients). Davis 178. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.

## Obverse.



231.



233.



234.



235.



236.



236.\*



237.



239.



238.

## Reverse.



231.



233.



234.



235.



236.



236.\*



237.



239.



238.

Phototype.

J. Guckkunst.

Phila.

6. Chapman, S.H. & H. **THE COLLECTION OF MR. SAMUEL A. BISPHAM, OF PHILADELPHIA, CONTAINING MANY FINE AND RARE PIECES.** New York: Bangs & Co., February 11–12, 1880. 8vo, gilt-printed white paper covers. (4), 38 pages; 1024 lots; 2 collotype plates with tissue guards.

The second plate depicts the obverse of a Year 2 shekel of the Jewish War (here attributed to Simon Maccabeus) and the reverse of a half shekel of the same year (lots 112 and 113, at \$30 and \$29 respectively).

**References:** Adams 2 (rated B+ overall, B for ancients). Davis 179.





7. Chapman, S.H. & H. CATALOGUE OF THE VERY LARGE AND WELL-KNOWN COLLECTION OF ANCIENT GREEK AND ROMAN, ENGLISH, FOREIGN AND AMERICAN COINS AND MEDALS OF THOMAS WARNER, ESQ., OF COHOCTON, STEUBEN CO., N.Y. COR. MEM. OF THE AM. NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF NEW YORK CITY. New York: Bangs & Co., June 9–14, 1884. 4to, gilt-printed white paper covers. 192 pages; 3727 lots; 12 tinted collotype plates with tissue guards.

An important and wide-ranging collection with notable ancients, excellent English coins, tokens, war medals, and various European rarities. It is among the most visually impressive of the Chapman catalogues, with magnificent plates tinted to approximate the metallic content of the coins and medals depicted. In the August 1950 issue of *The Numismatist*, John J. Ford, Jr. described the plates as “the finest I have ever seen in any catalog or numismatic book.” The first plate depicts ancient Greek, Roman, Byzantine, medieval, and modern gold coins, and includes a gold daric of Darius I (lot 3 at \$25) and a stater of Philip II of Macedonia (lot 82 at \$22); Plate 2 is entirely devoted to ancient silver coins, mostly Greek, including a silver nomos of Lucania (lot 8 at \$10), and a Roman Republican denarius of Cleopatra with Mark Anthony (lot 175 at \$11.50); Plate 7 includes four bronze coins, including sestertii of Nero, Galba, and Titus (the last called a medallion in the catalogue). Among the most elusive of the early large-format plated Chapman catalogues.

**References:** Adams 13 (rated A+ overall, A for ancients). Davis 182. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.

*Photo courtesy of the American Numismatic Society*



## PLATE II



8. Chapman, S.H. & H. CATALOGUE OF THE CHAPMAN COLLECTION OF FINE ANCIENT GREEK AND ROMAN, ENGLISH, FOREIGN AND AMERICAN COINS AND MEDALS. UNITED STATES COINS, INCLUDING 1804 DOLLAR. Philadelphia: Stan V. Henkels & Co., May 14–15, 1885. 8vo, gilt-printed white paper covers. 67, (1) pages; 1253 lots; 3 tinted collotype plates.

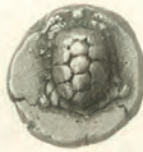
An important sale featuring significant ancient coins, as well as rare American coins. As with the Warner sale, the visually appealing plates are tinted to suggest gold, silver or copper. The first depicts a variety of coins, including a diobol of Agrigentum (lot 16 at \$26), a stater of Cyrenaica issued under Ophellas (lot 29 at \$44), and a tetradrachm of Perseus of Macedonia (lot 59 at \$32). A plated hardbound post-sale edition, with the prices realized list bound in, is known to exist.

**References:** Adams 14 (rated A– overall, B+ for ancients). Davis 183.

CHAPMAN COLLECTION.  
PLATE I.



1



2



3



4



13



20



23



37



16



59



29



81



77



10



50



79



218



514



515



516



182



188



201



539



1082



749



1872



755



9. Chapman, S.H. & H. CATALOGUE OF THE LARGE AND VALUABLE COLLECTION OF ANCIENT, FOREIGN, ENGLISH AND AMERICAN COINS AND MEDALS OF THE LATE THOMAS CLENEAY, ESQ., OF CINCINNATI. Philadelphia: Davis & Harvey, December 9–13, 1890. 4to, gilt-printed white paper covers. 114 pages; 2777 lots; 12 tinted collotype plates with tissue guards.

An exceptional sale, though most important for American coins. The first plate is devoted to gold coins, including eleven Greek and Roman coins of which both sides are illustrated. The coins include a gold stater of Philip II of Macedonia (lot 1 at \$23), an exceptional gold mnaieion (oktadrachm) of Arsinoe II Philadelphos (lot 3, which brought the very high price of \$87), and an aureus of Antoninus Pius (lot 32 at \$26). A plated post-sale edition, with the prices realized list bound in, is known to exist.

**References:** Adams 32 (rated A+ overall, C for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 11940. Davis 185.

## PLATE I



10. Chapman, S.H. & H. CATALOGUE OF THE SPLENDID COLLECTION OF ANCIENT GREEK AND ROMAN, GERMAN, EUROPEAN AND ORIENTAL COINS, FORMED BY THE LATE WILHELM BOEING, ESQ., DETROIT, MICH., SOLD BY ORDER OF THE EXECUTOR, TO WHICH IS ADDED A SUPERB SET OF UNITED STATES SILVER DOLLARS, OF A. BRIDGMAN, JR., ESQ., KEOKUK, IOWA. Philadelphia: Davis & Harvey, November 27–28, 1891. 8vo, gilt-printed white paper covers. 64 pages; 1073 lots; 4 tinted collotype plates.

Boeing's ancient coins depicted on Plate 1 include aurei of Tiberius (lot 8 at \$18.75), Trajan (lot 13 at \$19), Hadrian (lot 14 at \$18.75), and Antoninus Pius (lot 15 at \$18.75), as well as a gold stater of Philip II of Macedonia (lot 1 at \$23) and a mnaieion of Arsinoe II Philadelphos, carefully mounted in a gold frame (lot 3 at \$145).

**References:** Adams 34 (rated A– overall, B for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 12369. Davis 187.



11. Chapman, S.H. & H. **CATALOGUE OF THE COLLECTION OF GREEK, ROMAN, MODERN AND AMERICAN COINS AND MEDALS OF COLIN E. KING, ESQ., OF NEW YORK CITY.** Philadelphia: Davis & Harvey, April 5–6, 1892. 8vo, gilt-printed white paper covers. 80 pages; 1455 lots; 5 tinted collotype plates.

A cosmopolitan collection that (according to the introduction to the catalogue) “contains coins selected for their historical and artistic value and though not one of the largest of cabinets, presents a wide range of pieces valuable for these qualities.” The first plate includes six Greek and four Roman gold coins, among them a stater of Alexander the Great (lot 73 at \$21) and an aureus of Domitian (lot 272 at \$27); the second plate is entirely devoted to ancient silver coins and includes the star of the sale, the Syracusan dekadrachm (lot 56), which sold for \$150 to dealer Lyman Low. A denarius of Pescennius Niger is also shown (lot 337 at \$17), as is a Year 3 shekel of the Jewish War (lot 157 at \$20). The third plate is devoted to large Roman bronzes, and includes a rare sestertius of Vitellius (lot 253) that sold for \$17.

**References:** Adams 35 (rated A– overall, A for ancients). Davis 188. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.



## PLATE II.



44



169



170



57



77



80



56



82



56



157



156



191



220



334



335



337



168



167



139



149

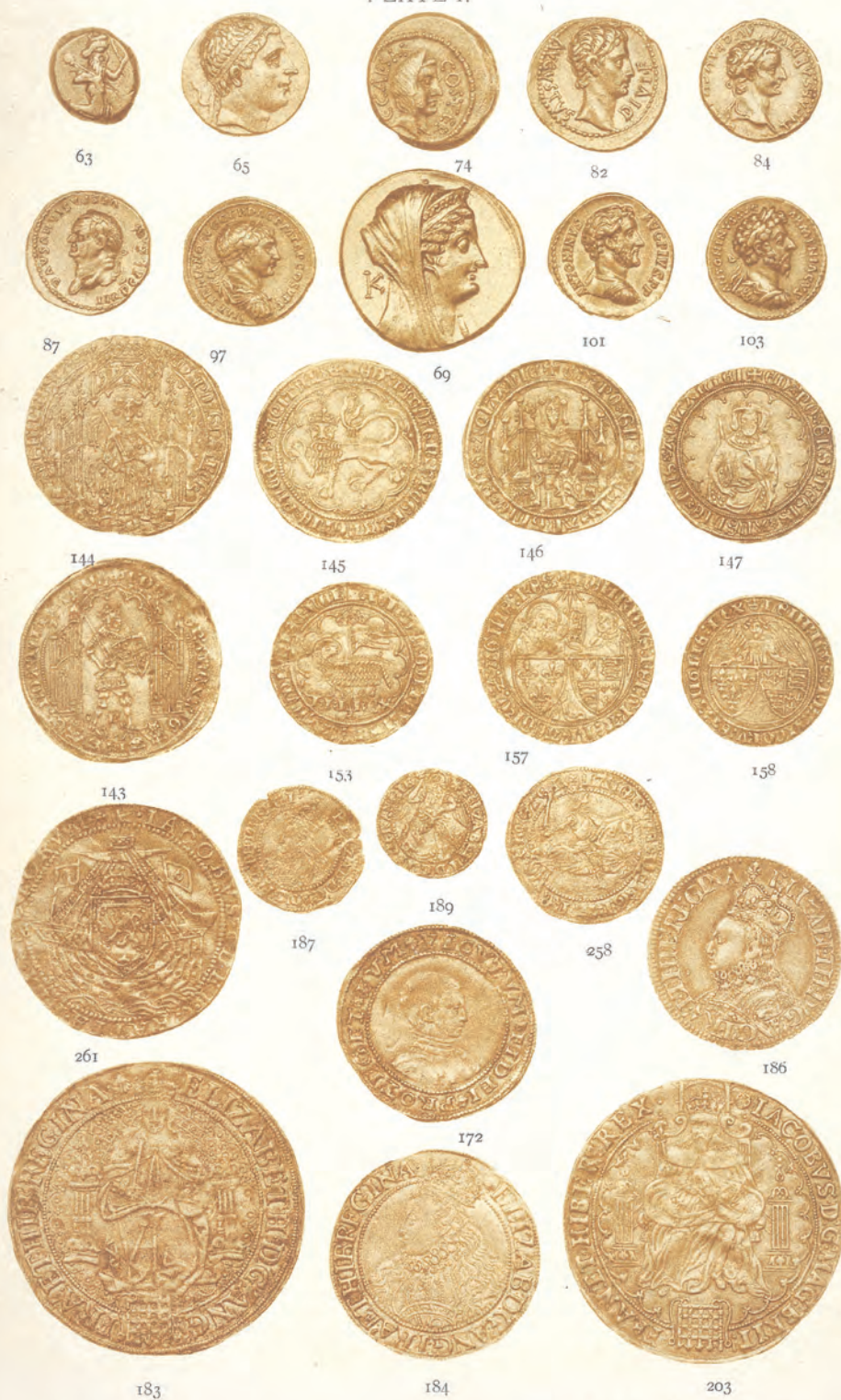
12. Chapman, S.H. & H. CATALOGUE OF THE COLLECTION OF GREEK, ROMAN AND ENGLISH COINS, AND OF WAR MEDALS AND DECORATIONS, THE PROPERTY OF A FORMER OFFICER IN THE ARMY, AND THE COLLECTION OF COINS OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA, OF MR. E.J.M. CHALONER, OF ENGLAND. Philadelphia: Davis & Harvey, April 29–30, 1895. 8vo, gilt-printed white paper covers. iv, 51, (1) pages; 883 lots; 5 tinted collotype plates with tissue guards.

An important sale of English coins and medals, choice ancient coins, and American colonials, featuring an extensive collection of Canadian tokens. Plate 1 includes a mnaieion of Arsinoe II Philadelphos (lot 69) that brought \$100, a stater of Diodotus I of Baktria (lot 65) that sold for \$45, and several other Greek and Roman gold coins. Plate 2 includes a dekadrachm of Syracuse (lot 15), which sold for its opening bid of \$125. The second plate includes a few other Roman, Greek and Jewish silver coins including a Year 1 half shekel (lot 55 at \$25), a Year 3 shekel (lot 58 at \$28), and a Bar Kokhba zuz (lot 62 at \$20). The catalogue is unusual in that it would seem that all copies distributed before the sale took place were plated. Charles Davis has speculated that unplated copies were intended to be hand-priced after the auction and made available for sale (loose plates are occasionally encountered, further suggesting that priced catalogues with or without plates would be available). The fact that the Canadian collection mentioned in the title and highlighted on the final plate did poorly may have led the brothers not to follow through with their plan. As a result, unplated catalogues are substantially scarcer than plated copies.

**References:** Adams 45 (rated A– overall, A for ancients). Davis 189.



## PLATE I.



13. Chapman, S.H. & H. CATALOGUE OF THE FINE COLLECTION OF ANCIENT, MODERN AND AMERICAN COINS, THE PROPERTY OF RALPH R. BARKER, ESQ., NEWPORT, R.I. Philadelphia: Davis & Harvey, July 7–8, 1904. 8vo, gilt-printed white paper covers. (2), ii, 97, (1) pages; 1608 lots; 4 photographic plates.

A rare plated catalogue, only the second Chapman sale to be published with full-tone photographic plates as opposed to collotype plates (the first was the John G. Mills catalogue of April 1904, which did not include ancient coins). The first plate is entirely devoted to ancient coins and includes a beautiful tetradrachm of Panormus (lot 21 at \$35), a tetradrachm of Perseus (lot 29 at \$24), and an early tetradrachm of Ephesos of the bee and stag type (lot 65 at \$21.50).

**References:** Adams 75 (rated B+ overall, B for ancients). Davis 193. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.



## Plate I





14. Chapman, S.H. & H. CATALOGUE OF THE MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION OF COINS OF THE UNITED STATES FORMED BY THE LATE HARLAN P. SMITH, ESQ., NEW YORK CITY. Philadelphia: Davis & Harvey, May 8–11, 1906 [year not specified in the catalogue]. 4to, gilt-printed white paper covers [post-sale version in white cloth and gilt-printed boards, with prices realized list bound in]. (6), 138, (10) pages; 2416 lots; 14 photographic plates.

While overshadowed by Smith's extraordinary collection of American coins, the sale also included a small but choice selection of ancient coins. The final plate depicts a Lydian one-third stater (lot 1786, sold to "Iron" [John Story Jenks] at \$30), a splendid tetradrachm from Myrina (lot 232 of the Montague collection, sold here as lot 1795 for \$30 also to Jenks), and a Year 2 shekel and half shekel from the Jewish War (lots 1796 at \$25 and 1797 at \$27, respectively, both sold to J.M. Clapp). The Chapmans wrote in the preface: "The late Mr. Harlan P. Smith for a great many years was an ardent amateur collector of coins, and during the later period of his life engaged actively in dealing in them, but always endeavored to improve his own private cabinet, and collectors will here find a collection that takes rank with the finest that have ever been sold as regards completeness, rarity, and preservation."

**References:** Adams 81 (rated A+ overall, B for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 12196. Davis 195.





Henry Chapman, as depicted in the February 1935 issue of *The Numismatist*, official publication of the American Numismatic Association ([money.org](http://money.org)).

## HENRY CHAPMAN

Like his brother, Henry Chapman, Jr. lived his entire life in Philadelphia. In 1896, he married Helen Collings (1872–1958); the couple had three daughters (Helen, Henrietta, and Jane Hudson Chapman) and a son (Joseph Collings Chapman). A Henry Chapman III is listed in the 1900 census, aged 2, as part of the household, indicating a son who died the following year. Of the two Chapman Brothers, it was Samuel who had the stronger interest in ancient coins, but it was Henry who conducted the magnificent Earle sale of 1912 and the Jenks sale of 1921. He was active in the American Numismatic Association, and he held auctions in conjunction with their annual conventions in 1908, 1919, 1924 and 1925. On a personal level, he was a dedicated philatelist and also formed an outstanding collection of colonial and Continental paper money. Declining health forced Henry to retire in 1932; the last two years of his life were spent at home in Philadelphia, where he died on January 4, 1935. Noting the changes that had taken place in the hobby in the years spanned by his career, his obituary in *The Numismatist* noted that “his death removes perhaps the last of the old school of dealers in the United States.”

15. Chapman, Henry. CATALOGUE OF THE VALUABLE COLLECTION OF FOREIGN AND UNITED STATES GOLD COINS, PARTICULARLY RICH IN ANCIENT ROMAN GOLD COINS, POLISH GOLD COINS, INCLUDING A 100 DUCATS, 1621, SET OF THE SILVER DOLLARS OF THE UNITED STATES, 1794 TO 1904, 1804 ALONE EXCEPTED. 1851 OCTAGONAL \$50 PIECE. FINE DECORATIONS, INCLUDING THE ORDER OF THE CINCINNATI. MAGNIFICENT CENTS OF 1794, 1796, 1797, 1802, 1803, OF THE LATE REV. STANISLAUS SIEDLECKI, PLYMOUTH, PA., TO WHICH IS ADDED THE CANADIAN COLLECTIONS OF R.O. MONTAMBAULT, J. BONNER, E.M. TURNER. Philadelphia: Davis & Harvey, April 22, 1911. 4to, white cloth and gilt-printed boards. iv, 61, (3) pages; 819 lots; 3 photographic plates.

A very scarce catalogue, probably the most difficult to obtain of the quarto-size Chapman sales. Plate 1 depicts 17 of the ancient lots (not always both sides), including an exceptional stater of Alexander (lot 1 at \$31), an aureus of Augustus (lot 2 at \$40), and an aureus of Domitian (lot 6 at \$37). All three of the cited lots were sold to Clarence S. Bement.

**References:** Adams 16 (rated B+ overall, B for ancients). Davis 202.



## PLATE I.



COLLECTION OF REV. STANISLAUS SIEDLECKI

CATALOGUED BY  
HENRY CHAPMAN

APRIL 22, 1911

16. Chapman, Henry. **CATALOGUE OF THE MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION OF ANCIENT GREEK AND ROMAN, EUROPEAN, ORIENTAL, EARLY AMERICAN AND UNITED STATES COINS OF GEORGE H. EARLE, JR., ESQ., PHILADELPHIA.** Philadelphia: Davis & Harvey, June 25–29, 1912. 4to, gilt-printed white paper covers. v, (3), 225, (3) pages; 3875 lots; 39 photographic plates.

Adams A+: “One of the great collections: balanced strength in ancients, European and U.S. rarities and high condition.” The Earle sale is one of the most important classic American catalogues for ancient coins, with nine quarto-sized photographic plates devoted to them. Indeed, Greek and Roman coins (through Zeno) comprise the first 823 lots—enough to have been a sale of their own, particularly with nine accompanying plates. Plate 1 includes images of several lots of important Ptolemaic gold coins, as well as a stater of Diodotus of Baktria that brought \$200. The highlight (as far as ancients are concerned) is lot 112, the Syracusan dekadrachm by Euainetos (Gallatin lists this as “1912—112-C. VI: R. III-6” under Chapman). Depicted on Plate 2, this piece sold for \$660, an exceptionally high price at the time. Plates 3–5 mostly depict Greek silver coins, with a few bronzes toward the end. Plates 6–8 are mostly devoted to Roman gold coins (over 100 of them), with Plate 8 leading into the Byzantine coinage. Plate 6 includes a rare aureus of Plotina (lot 563, sold for \$170) and an aureus of Mark Anthony with Octavian (lot 476, sold for \$165). Plate 7 features a rare aureus of Plautilla (lot 649, sold for \$190) and an aureus of Macrinus (lot 657, sold for \$174). Plate 9 is mostly given over to large-size Roman bronzes. A plated post-sale hardbound edition is known to exist (with a prices realized list bound in), but it is very rare.

**References:** Adams 19 (rated A+ overall, A for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 12177\*. Davis 203. Grierson 275. Spring 99.



*Photos courtesy of the American Numismatic Society*



## PLATE VII



COLLECTION OF GEORGE H. EARLE, JR., ESQ.  
 CATALOGUED BY  
 HENRY CHAPMAN  
 PHILADELPHIA  
 JUNE 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 1912

17. Chapman, Henry. **CATALOGUE OF THE JOHN STORY JENKS COLLECTION OF COINS. ANCIENT GREEK, ROMAN AND THE ENTIRE WORLD. EARLY AMERICAN COLONIAL AND STATE ISSUES AND UNITED STATES PATTERNS AND THE REGULAR SERIES.** Philadelphia: Davis & Harvey, December 7–17, 1921. 4to, white cloth lettered in gilt. xii, 653, (3) pages; 7302 lots; 42 photographic plates.

Adams A+: “Henry Chapman’s magnum opus. Superb coins of the world plus U.S. all series, all expertly described.” Along with the 1912 Earle sale, the 1921 Jenks sale is one of two catalogues by Henry Chapman listed by John Spring. The opening 550 lots of this massive sale consist of ancient coins through Zeno. The first six plates depict choice ancient Greek, Roman and Byzantine coins, with the first three plates devoted to the Greek coins and the next three to Roman and Byzantine coins. Lot 45 is Jenks’s Euainetos dekadrachm (Gallatin lists this as “1921—45-F. IX: R. XIV-5” under Chapman). Shown on the first plate, the piece sold for \$510 (as opposed to the \$660 brought by the Earle example in 1912). It is erroneously catalogued as being the work of Kimon. Other highlights include: lot 264, an aureus of Octavian and Julius Caesar (Crawford 490/2, Calicó 52), which sold for an impressive \$245 and is depicted on Plate 4; lot 393, an aureus of Pertinax (RIC 4A, Calicó 2383), which sold for \$175 and is depicted on Plate 5; lot 406, an aureus depicting Julia Domna (RIC 536, Calicó 2641a), which sold for \$77.50 and is depicted on Plate 5; and lot 414, an aureus of Caracalla and Geta (RIC 38, Calicó 2861), “found at Cologne in 1911,” according to the catalogue and also depicted on Plate 5, which sold for \$100. A plated post-sale edition, with prices realized list bound in, is known to exist.

**References:** Adams 40 (rated A+ overall, A for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 7997\*. Davis 210. Grierson 276. Spring 100.

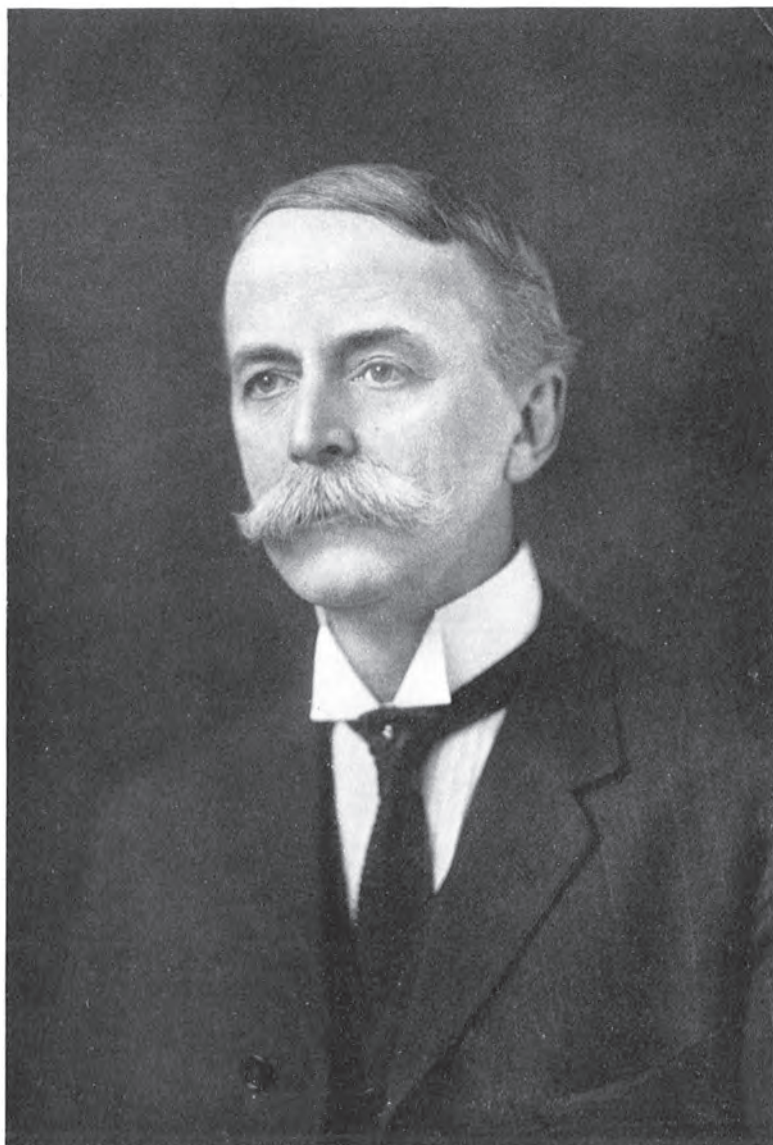


*Photos courtesy of the American Numismatic Society*









*Samuel Hudson Chapman*

S.H. Chapman, 1914

## S.H. CHAPMAN

Samuel Hudson Chapman was the son of Henry and Jane Hudson Chapman, Quaker immigrants from Dublin, Ireland. In addition to being a member of the American Numismatic Society and a charter member of the American Numismatic Association, Samuel belonged to the Photographic Society of Philadelphia, which he served as president, and was also involved in archaeological societies. He had a strong interest in ancient coinage and archaeology, serving as an advisor to the Department of Archaeology at the University of Pennsylvania and conducting field work in Sicily. He reported in the *American Journal of Archaeology* on his discovery of a Doric Temple at Locri-Epizephyrii, Calabria. He also had a fondness for United States large cents, and was the author of *The United States Cents of the Year 1794* (1923, revised 1926). He was scheduled to conduct the 1918 ANA Convention sale, held in Philadelphia that year. While the convention itself was cancelled due to an outbreak of Spanish Influenza, the auction took place as planned. He retired from active business in 1929, having conducted his last auction five years before. He was married to Bertha Jayne Bucknell in 1897 and the couple had three sons: Samuel H. (Jr.), Robert P., and Philip J. Chapman.

18. Chapman, S.H. CATALOG OF THE SPLENDID HISTORICAL COLLECTION OF THE GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER COINS OF ANCIENT GREECE AND ROME, EUROPE, THE UNITED STATES, MEXICO AND SOUTH AMERICA FORMED BY THE LATE HENRY L. JEWETT, ESQ., MACON, GEORGIA. Philadelphia: Lippincott, Son & Co., June 21–23, 1909. 4to, gilt-printed white paper covers. (4), 123, (1) pages; 1871 lots; 13 photographic plates.

Born in 1821, Jewett developed in early boyhood “a fondness for history and the collection of old coins, and, as success in business warranted, added to his cabinet, until at his death it comprised one of the finest general collections of coins and medals to be found in any private collection in America.” The first 242 lots of this sale consisted of ancient coins (including some later Byzantine issues), and the first two plates are entirely devoted to them (the third plate includes one British Celtic coin). Plate 1 features lot 12, a gold trichryson (pentadrachm) of Ptolemy II depicting Ptolemy I Soter (\$97.50). Also depicted are lot 13, a gold mnaieion (oktadrachm) of Ptolemy II Philadelphos with Arsinoe II (Ptolemy I and Berenike I on reverse), which brought a strong \$120, and a mnaieion of Arsinoe II Philadelphos, lot 14, which sold for \$81. The second plate includes a transitional tetradrachm of Gela (lot 36 at \$25), a tetradrachm of Demetrius I (lot 90 at \$13), and a bold Carthaginian tetradrachm of the Herakles type (lot 111 at \$13). The plates in this catalogue are typically bound out of order.

**References:** Adams 4 (rated A– overall, B+ for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 12002. Davis 216. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.

PLATE II



JEWETT COLLECTION

CATALOGED BY S. H. CHAPMAN

19. Chapman, S.H. CATALOG OF THE HISTORICAL COLLECTION OF GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER COINS OF ANCIENT GREECE AND ROME, EUROPE, THE UNITED STATES, MEXICO AND SOUTH AMERICA, FORMED BY THE LATE JULIUS L. BROWN, ESQ., ATLANTA, GEORGIA. SOLD BY ORDER OF HIS EXECUTOR, HON. JOSEPH M. BROWN, GOVERNOR OF GEORGIA. Philadelphia: Lippincott, Son & Co., May 30–31, 1911. 4to, gilt-printed white paper covers. 94, (8) pages; 1242 lots; 7 photographic plates of coins.

A scarce catalogue. Plate 1 mostly depicts ancient Greek and Roman gold coins, including aurei of Lucius Verus (lot 45 at \$27), Commodus (lot 46 at \$25), Septimus Severus (lot 47 at \$65), and Severus Alexander (lot 48 at \$50), as well as an attractive stater of Philip II of Macedon (lot 3 at \$45). Plate 3 has a few ancient silver pieces, including a Campano-Tarentine nomos (lot 7c at \$22) and a Year 2 shekel of the Jewish War (lot 17a at \$20).

**References:** Adams 8 (rated A– overall, B for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 15109. Davis 219. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.



PLATE I

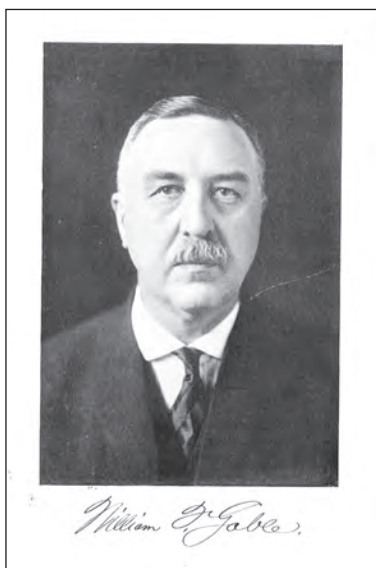


JULIUS L. BROWN COLLECTION  
CATALOGED BY  
S. H. CHAPMAN

20. Chapman, S.H. **CATALOG OF THE MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION OF THE GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER COINS OF THE UNITED STATES OF WILLIAM F. GABLE, ESQ., ALTOONA.** Philadelphia: S.T. Freeman & Co., May 27–29, 1914. 4to, gilt-printed white paper covers. (2), 116 pages; 1865 lots; halftone full-page portrait plates of Gable and Chapman; 14 photographic plates.

As is clear from the title, the focus of Gable's collection was on United States coins, though the first plate includes images of the obverses and reverses of ten ancient Greek coins, including a tetradrachm of Akragas (lot 12 at \$14), a didrachm of Kroton (lot 14 at \$15), and a Year One shekel of the Jewish War (lot 19 at \$20). Chapman notes of the Kroton piece that "It was after this coin the reverse of the LIBERTAS AMERICANA medal was designed, with the addition of France protecting Herakles from the attacks of the British Lion."

**References:** Adams 13 (rated A– overall, C for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 11974. Davis 223.



William F. Gable

*Photos courtesy of the American Numismatic Society*



## PLATE I



COLLECTION OF WILLIAM F. GABLE, ESQ.  
 CATALOGED BY S. H. CHAPMAN

21. Chapman, S.H. CATALOG OF THE LARGE COLLECTION OF THE GOLD AND SILVER COINS AND MEDALS OF ANCIENT GREECE AND ROME, EUROPE AND AMERICA, PARTICULARLY THE DOLLARS OF THE WORLD, FORMED BY THE LATE CHARLES GREGORY, ESQ., NEW YORK, MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY, THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION, THE NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY, ETC., SOLD BY ORDER OF HIS EXECUTORS, THE U.S. TRUST CO., N.Y. Philadelphia: S.T. Freeman & Co., June 19–24, 1916. 4to, gilt-printed white paper covers. 199, (1) pages; 3792 lots; 15 photographic plates.

Primarily focused on world coinage of the early modern period, Gregory's holdings did include some decent ancient coins. Plate 1 depicts both sides of four Roman Imperial gold coins, including aurei of Claudius (lot 98 at \$10) and Marcus Aurelius (lot 104 at \$17) and solidi of Valentinian I (lot 105 at \$8) and Theodosius I (lot 107 at \$4.75).

**References:** Adams 15 (rated A overall, C+ for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 12489. Davis 224.



PLATE I



THE GREGORY COLLECTION  
CATALOGED BY S. H. CHAPMAN





Edward Cogan

## EDWARD COGAN

Edward Cogan (1803–1884) has often been referred to as the first coin dealer in the United States or similarly as the father of coin collecting in this country. While neither appellation is entirely accurate, he probably was the first to successfully operate as a full-time coin dealer in this country for more than a few years. An Englishman by birth, he emigrated with his family to the U.S. in 1853; he is listed in the immigration records as being an accountant, aged 50 years. Numismatics for Cogan was a new career in a new country, and it served as his profession for over two decades, from about 1856 to 1879. He held nearly seventy auction sales, with these serving as the best paper trail from which to examine his activities. Cogan was the first American coin dealer to make use of photographic plates in an auction catalogue, publishing his June 1869 catalogue of the Mortimer K. Mackenzie collection in illustrated editions featuring four or five albumen plates of very high quality.

Cogan's catalogue descriptions tend to be brief and his familiarity with ancient coins was not equal to that of his contemporary William Strobridge. Of the three Cogan sales rated A in ancients by Adams, only one, the Mackenzie sale, is plated. This is especially unfortunate given the lack of detail often encountered in Cogan's descriptions. Writing before the availability of a single-volume reference like *Historia Numorum* (first edition, 1887)—and in the case of the two plated sales considered here, even before the start of the BMC Greek series in 1873—Cogan does the best he can with limited resources. He cites no references to ancient coins in the Mackenzie catalogue, so it is difficult to tell from where he is drawing his information.

The statistical analysis found in Appendix A of this work will attempt to shed additional light on Cogan's activities in the realm of ancient numismatics, and will show that he played a more active role in this area than most would now suspect (18 sales rated for ancients by Adams, with 7 sales rated in the A or B levels). Only two of these catalogues, however, include illustrations of ancient coins and are listed below.

22. Cogan, Edward. **CATALOGUE OF COINS AND MEDALS, THE PROPERTY OF MORTIMER LIVINGSTON MACKENZIE, ESQ.** New York: Leavitt, Strebeigh & Co., June 23–24, 1869. 8vo, printed tan paper covers. 55, (1) pages; 770 lots; 5 photographic plates [some copies are known to have been issued with 4 plates only].

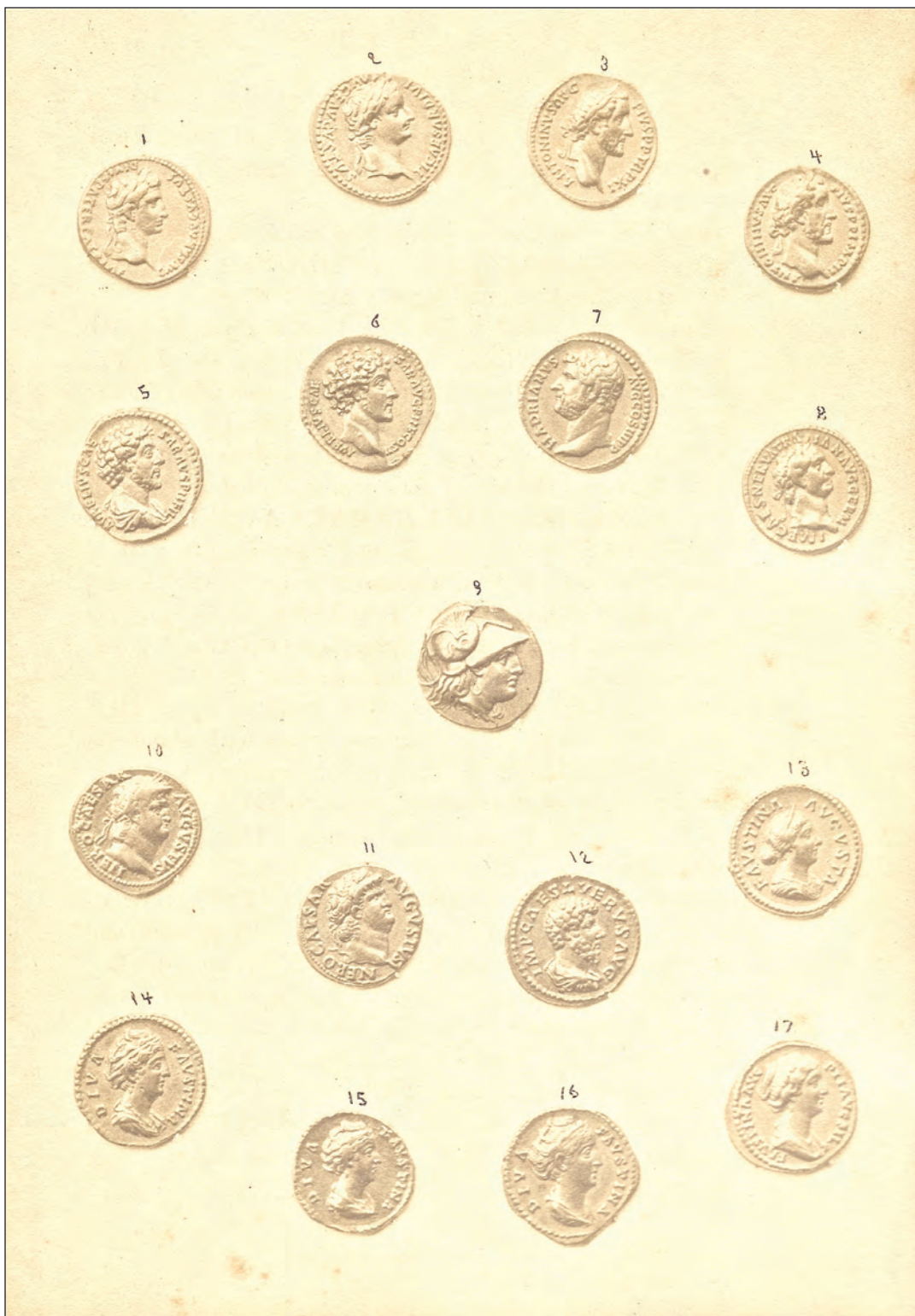
A landmark in coin collecting in the United States, being the first American numismatic auction sale catalogue issued with photographic plates. Scarce. The plates in the early Cogan sales are albumen prints wet-mounted onto backing paper, and are of varying quality (though the Mackenzie plates tend to be well-executed). The fourth Mackenzie plate is devoted to seventeen ancient gold coins. The Roman gold depicted on the plate (obverses only) includes aurei of Augustus, Tiberius, Nero, Hadrian, Antoninus Pius, Faustina the Elder, Marcus Aurelius, Faustina the Younger, Lucius Verus, and Trajan. The top sellers were: lot 579, an aureus of Marcus Aurelius as Caesar (Hilaritas reverse), which sold for \$21 to Benjamin Betts; lot 572, a Travel Series aureus of Hadrian with the Hispania reverse, which sold for \$21 to J. Carson Brevoort; lot 569, an aureus of Tiberius, probably of the Lugdunum Pontif Maxim (Calicó 305) type, which sold for \$20 to Charles E. Anthon; and lot 571, an aureus of Nero, probably of the Concordia Augusta (Calicó 405) type, which also sold to Anthon for \$20.

Foundational bibliographer Emmanuel Joseph Attinelli described this catalogue as follows:

The sale of this celebrated collection, noted for the superior quality of the pieces offered therein, for which the aggregate amount, paid for the number of lots, forms a good criterion; being an average of nearly six dollars a lot, extremely few lots consisting of more than one piece; gold forming the least part of the value. The set of U.S. Cents being the finest ever offered in any one collection. The catalogues were issued with and without photographs, some with five, and others with four plates. A few copies were also issued on large paper. The early death of Mr. Mackenzie was an event most deeply regretted by numismatists generally, and most particularly by those of this city.

As Attinelli mentions, some copies of the catalogue were distributed with only four plates. The plate left out of those copies was the one depicting Roman gold coins. Presumably, Cogan thought there was little point incurring the additional expense of sending it to clients he knew were only interested in more modern series. As a side note, it should be pointed out that Mackenzie was very much alive at the time of his sale. Attinelli's wording above has led some later numismatic historians to believe otherwise, a view corrected by Charles Davis in the Winter 1993 issue of *The Asylum*.

**References:** Adams 20 (rated A overall, A for ancients). Attinelli 52. Clain-Stefanelli 12403. Davis 257. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.





23. Cogan, Edward. **CATALOGUE OF A PRIVATE COLLECTION OF ROMAN, GREEK, ENGLISH, SCOTCH, AMERICAN, CANADIAN AND MISCELLANEOUS GOLD, SILVER, AND COPPER COINS AND MEDALS, ALSO, SEVERAL RARE NUMISMATIC BOOKS.** New York: Bangs, Merwin & Co., April 3–5, 1871. 8vo, printed green paper covers. 73, (1) pages; 1758 lots; 1 mounted photographic plate.

Only the third plated U.S. numismatic auction catalogue. Attinelli claimed that Cogan didn't actually catalogue it, ascribing this work to Alfred Sandham of Montreal, whom he also credits with being the owner. According to Fred Bowman, however, the owner was actually James Ferrier, the former mayor of Montreal. Bowman was close, but mistaken. In fact, as recently demonstrated by Ted Banning, the owner was James Ferrier, Jr., a son of Mayor Ferrier. Nine ancient coins (one side only) are depicted on the plate, along with several other pieces. None of the pieces brought particularly strong prices, with an aureus of Domitian (lot 149), which sold for \$7 to "McFarland" (a bidder whose identity remains otherwise unknown to me), being the most expensive of the plated ancient coins.

**References:** Adams 27 (rated B overall, B for ancients). Attinelli 58. Davis 260.





Thomas L. Elder

## THOMAS L. ELDER

Thomas L. Elder (1874–1948) was an active participant in the numismatic trade for most of the first four decades of the twentieth century. Indeed, referring to him as “active” seems a bit of an understatement. Between 1903 and 1940, he held no fewer than 292 auction sales, featuring over 420,000 lots. In 1916 alone, he held 19 separate auction sales, for which he did all of the cataloguing himself. The man kept busy. In addition to running his own business, he participated in (or, depending on one’s perspective, interfered with) hobby organizational politics, issued store cards and other tokens, wrote articles, published magazines and books, traveled to conventions, and maintained a wide correspondence.

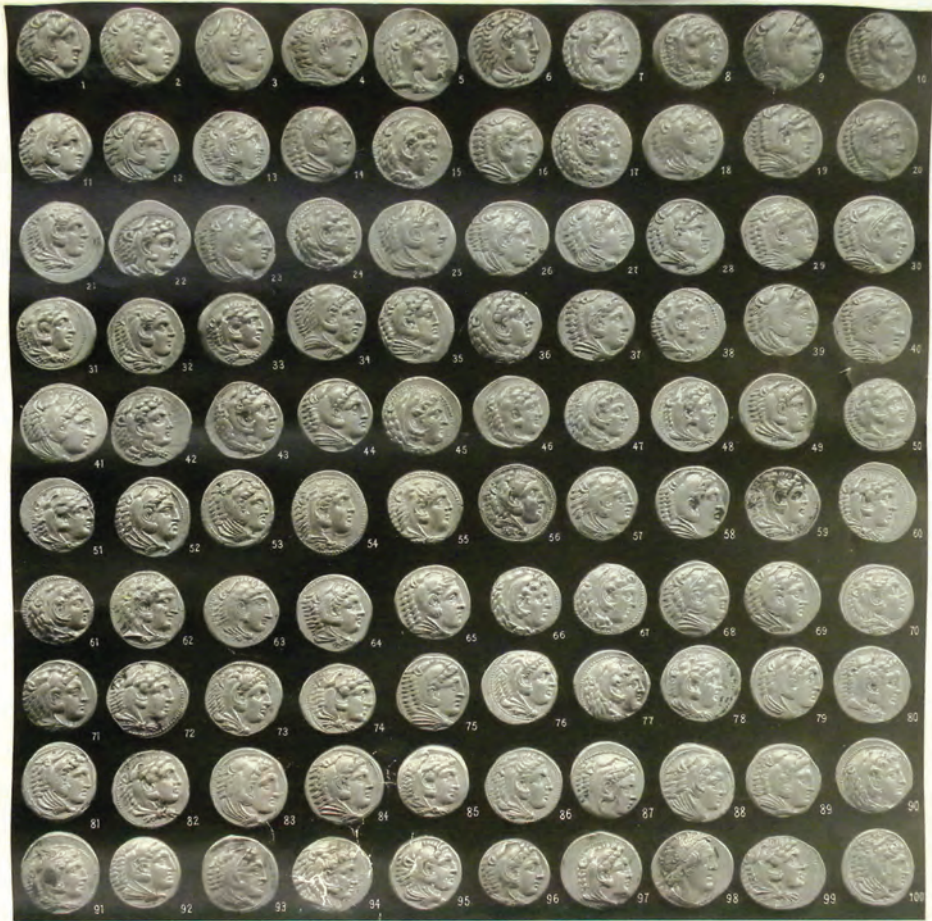
Elder loved collecting and was fascinated by the history it revealed. He was emphatic that one’s collections should have meaning, and not just exist as a gathering of pretty baubles or a cold investment. As John W. Adams has written of Elder, “He did not succeed in rescuing the hobby from its crassness then, nor would he now, but he surely tried.” His series of auctions is extraordinary not only for its quantity but for its quality—and for the breadth encompassed by that quality. Few dealers could boast of having single-handedly offered landmark collections of such disparate series as American political tokens, English hammered coinage, Latin American coins and medals, U.S. pattern coinage, private and territorial gold coins, European rarities, numismatic books, and ancient coins. Of the 292 numbered sales in the Elder series, Adams rates 61 in the A to B range for ancient coins, an impressive record for a non-specialist dealer.

Elder’s catalogues are not, however, without their flaws and frustrations. Perhaps because of the speed with which he worked, his cataloguing can be overly terse. Tidy organization is frequently lacking, and his habit of arranging catalogues by consignment can be irritating when one has to look in ten different places to locate a sought-after coin. This seeming randomness extends to his photographic plates: his April–May 1920 catalogue, for instance, features ancient coins on Plates 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 11 and 13. Added to this frustration is the difficulty of locating copies of most plated Elder catalogues in the first place. While he had plates (many of them of exceptional quality) prepared for some two dozen sales, most are rare and a few are barely known. This scarcity has kept them from being adequately and appropriately appreciated.



This is a good place to mention another Elder production that can be of considerable interest to collectors of and dealers in ancient coins. The Demanhur Hoard of tetradrachms, said for some time to have been unearthed in the spring of 1908 but now generally felt more likely to have been discovered in 1905, was widely dispersed into the trade, with part of it coming into Elder's hands. At some point, probably around 1909 or 1910, he published six large [39.5 by 44 cm] photographs depicting this *Remarkable Collection of Greek Tetradrachms. Three Hundred Silver Coins of Alexander the Great in the Collection of Thomas L. Elder*. This is an important photographic record of the hoard, with William Daehn (entry 3352) noting that "About 150 different monograms/mint-marks are represented." Though not an auction catalogue, its importance as a photographic record is here noted.

## PLATE I



REMARKABLE COLLECTION OF GREEK TETRADRACHMS  
THREE HUNDRED SILVER COINS OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT.

IN THE COLLECTION OF THOMAS L. ELDER, F. R. N. S., 32 EAST TWENTY-THIRD ST., NEW YORK CITY.

Unearthed during the Spring of 1908, at Denderahout, near Alexandria, Egypt. Total pieces found, 18,000, including 300 coins of the Ptolemaic kings. The pieces shown in these plates were selected from 2,000 of the find, as entirely important to America.

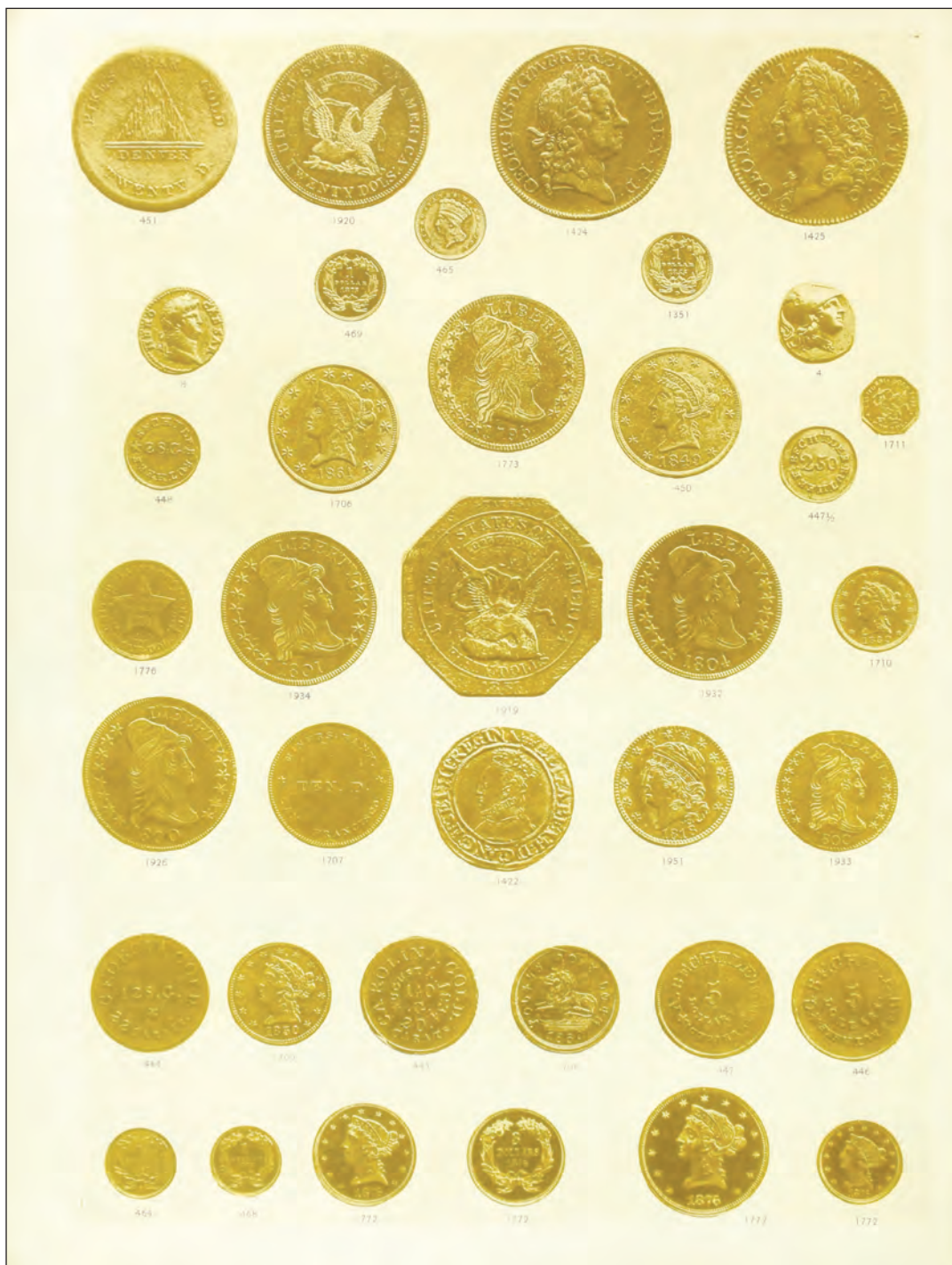
DESCRIPTION OF THE GENERAL TYPES.

Obverse, head of Hercules in high relief in lion's skin. Reverse, Zeus seated on a cloud. Alexander's name in Greek and various mint-marks and monograms. Weight about 240 grains. About 150 mint-marks were represented, and many of the places of mintage are definitely known. Dates of issue, B. C. 336-323.

24. Elder, Thomas L. **CATALOGUE OF THE THIRTEENTH PUBLIC AUCTION SALE OF COINS, WAR MEDALS, JACKSON TOKENS, PAPER MONEY, FOREIGN AND UNITED STATES GOLD, ETC. THE PROPERTIES OF J.N.T. LEVICK, MRS. MINNIE HIRSCH, E.S. SELEE, AND OTHERS.** New York: Daniel R. Kennedy, October 14–15, 1907. 4to, gilt-printed brown card covers. 122, (2) pages; 1992 lots; 3 tinted collotype plates.

Elder proclaimed this “the finest and largest sale that I have yet held.” Adams concurs, awarding this catalogue the first of many A ratings in the Elder series. Its focus, however, was almost exclusively on American coins and tokens. The third plate depicts two ancient gold coins: a Macedonian stater of Philip III Arrhidaeus (lot 4 at \$18.50) and an aureus of Nero (lot 8 at \$12).

**References:** Adams 13 (rated A– overall, C for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 12015. Davis 347.

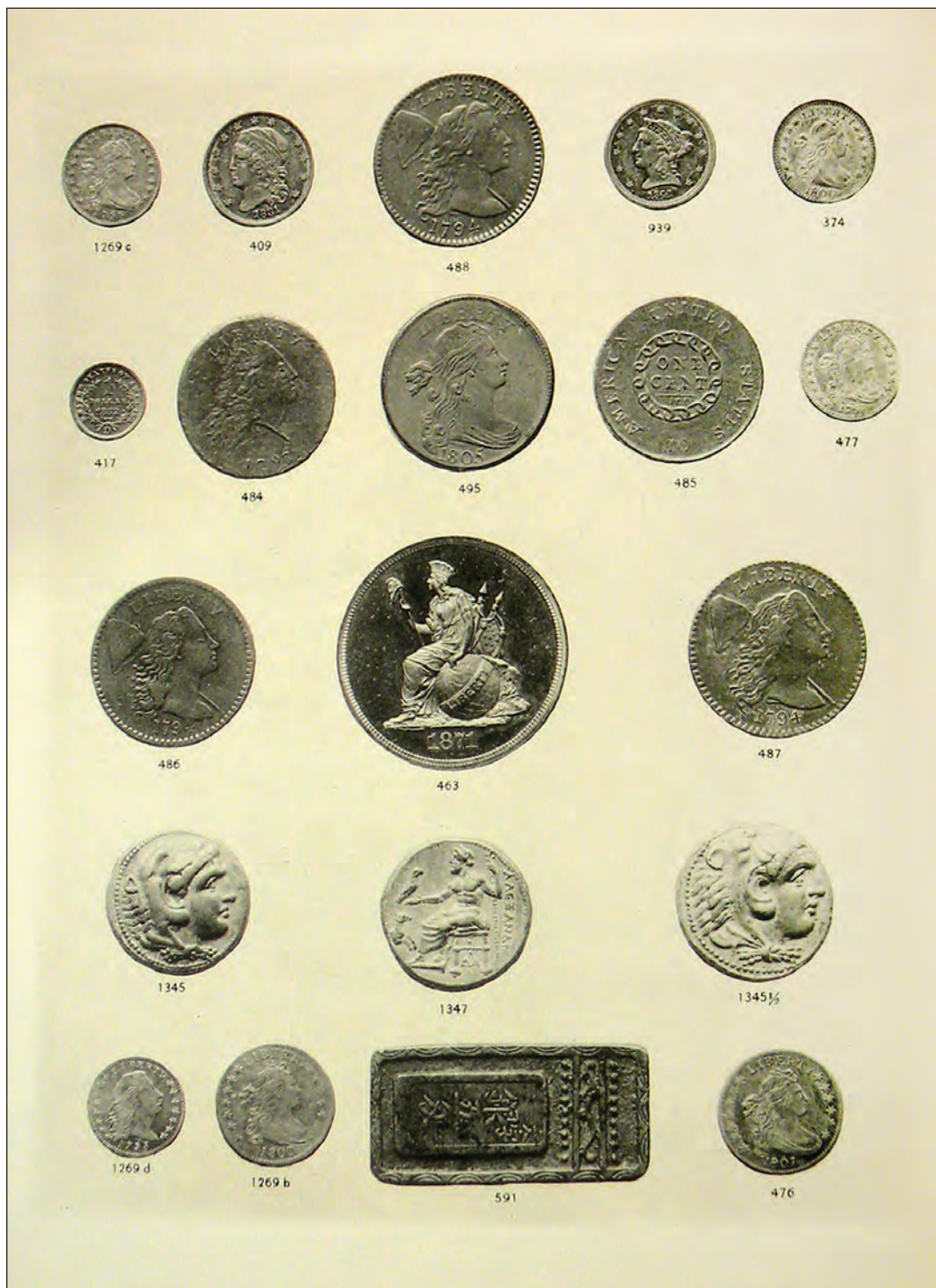




25. Elder, Thomas L. **CATALOGUE OF THE FOURTEENTH PUBLIC AUCTION SALE OF COINS, EGYPTIAN, GREEK AND ROMAN ANTIQUITIES, WAR MEDALS, PAPER MONEY, FOREIGN AND UNITED STATES GOLD, AN 1858 PROOF SET, ETC. THE PROPERTIES OF AN ESTATE, J.B. CHASE, A PROMINENT COLLECTOR, ETC.** New York: Daniel R. Kennedy, December 19, 1907. 4to, gilt-printed brown card covers. 85, (3) pages; 1396 lots; 3 collotype plates.

Extremely rare with plates, with only two complete copies currently known in private hands (along with one copy lacking one of the plates). The third plate includes three tetradrachms of Alexander the Great, said by Elder to have been “found in Egypt in an old earthen pot in the side of a well” (lots 1345, 1345½, and 1347, which brought \$4.60, \$4.20, and \$4.25, respectively).

**References:** Adams 14 (rated B overall, unrated for ancients). Davis 348.



26. Elder, Thomas L. **CATALOGUE OF THE EIGHTEENTH PUBLIC AUCTION SALE OF A SPLENDID COLLECTION OF AMERICAN AND ENGLISH COINS, THE PROPERTY OF PETER GSCHWEND, ESQ. OF PITTSBURGH, PENNA.** New York: Daniel R. Kennedy, June 15–16, 1908. 4to, gilt-printed card covers. 83, (1) pages; 2 addenda leaves occasionally tipped in at end with instruction slip; 1097 lots, plus addenda lots 1098–1108 and A–BB; 17 collotype plates throughout, the first with tissue guard.

The catalogue of Elder's first blockbuster sale, scarce with plates. Peter Gschwend (1845–1928), was born and died in Pittsburgh, but made his living in New York, "engaging in the dry goods business on Fifth Avenue," according to Elder's introduction. He was a collector from his youth, and a living link at the time of the sale to the generation of collectors and dealers who began their numismatic activity in the Civil War era. Elder declared the sale to be "the finest and most important that has been held in this city since the Parmelee sale in 1890." W.H. Woodin had purchased the collection en bloc from Gschwend, retaining a few pieces needed for his own extensive collection and consigning the balance to Elder. Plate 6 includes Greek and Jewish coins, including a Year 3 shekel (lot 940 at \$21.00) and half shekel (lot 941 at \$20.50 to Joseph C. Mitchelson) from the Jewish War, as well as a stater of Philip II of Macedonia (lot 942 at \$3.50) and a Thurian didrachm (lot 944 at \$4.50). Plate 11 depicts an aureus of Vespasian (lot 952 at \$8.25). Locating coins on Elder's plates can be challenging. While he generally tried to keep the arrangement in accord with the progression of the sale, if he found himself with extra space on a plate he was inclined to fill it with something that didn't make the cut earlier—hence the strange placement of lot 952 (the Vespasian piece) on Plate 11 while the other plated ancients (from lots in the 940s) are all on Plate 6.

**References:** Adams 18 (rated A+ overall, unrated for ancients). Davis 349.

PLATE VI



273



300



271



10



156



157



942



139-A



940



944



158



941



27. Elder, Thomas L. **CATALOGUE OF THE TWENTY-FIRST PUBLIC SALE. MAGNIFICENT RARE COIN COLLECTION OF THE LATE JAMES B. WILSON, ESQ. OF NEW YORK CITY.** New York: Daniel R. Kennedy, October 5–7, 1908. 8vo, gilt-printed tan card covers. 72, (8) pages; 1409 lots; 28 collotype plates.

A truly notable sale of American coins, especially important for large cents, but including some ancient coins as well. Elder boasts in his introduction that the plated edition contains more plates than any other previous numismatic sale, which appears to be the case. Despite this abundance, however, only one ancient coin is depicted: a stater of Alexander III (lot 1142 at \$30.50) shown on the unnumbered twenty-second plate opposite page 55.

**References:** Adams 21 (rated A+ overall, unrated for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 12101. Davis 350.



1147



1150



1146



1151



1149



1167



1142



1148

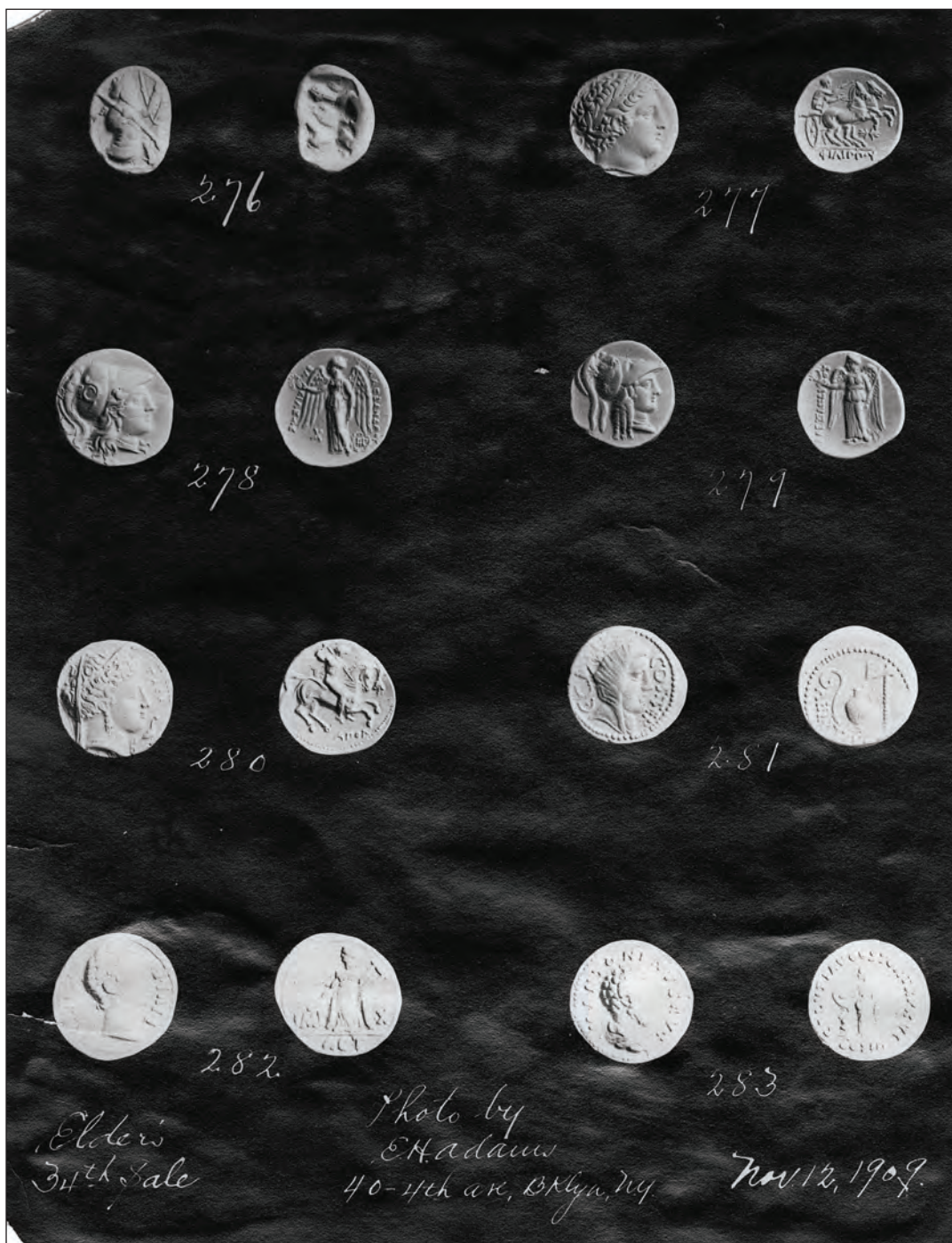


28. Elder, Thomas L. CATALOGUE OF THE THIRTY-FOURTH PUBLIC SALE OF A VALUABLE COLLECTION OF RARE COINS, THE PROPORTIES [*sic*] OF VARIOUS PERSONS, INCLUDING: A SUPERB COMPLETE SET OF UNITED STATES THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECES WITH PROOF PIECES OF THE PRECIOUS DATES 1873, 1875, 1876 AND 1877; THE BRANCH MINT VARIETIES INCLUDED; MOST DATES IN DUPLICATE, TOTALING ABOUT 90 PIECES; MANY CHOICE AND RARE EAGLES, HALF EAGLES, QUARTER EAGLES, WITH THE 1842 PHILADELPHIA; 50 GOLD DOLLARS, WITH A FINE 1865; AN UNCIRCULATED TEN DOLLAR OREGON PIECE IN TIN, THE FINEST IMPRESSION FROM THIS DIE: COLORADO AND CALIFORNIA PATTERNS IN BASE METALS; EXCESSIVELY RARE U.S. PATTERN DOLLARS AND MINOR PIECES; VERY CHOICE PERSIAN, GREEK, ROMAN AND BYZANTINE GOLD, WITH AN EXCESSIVELY RARE TARENTUM STATER, NEVER OFFERED IN AMERICA: A LARGE LINE OF U.S. SILVER, WITH A 1796 HALF DOLLAR; ANCIENT AND MODERN FOREIGN SILVER, ETC. EGYPTIAN SCARABS, ETC., TOTALING ABOUT 950 LOTS MAKING THIS ONE OF THE BEST SALES YET HELD, AND OFFERING EXCEPTIONAL CHANCE TO COLLECTORS WISHING TO COMPLETE THEIR SETS. New York: Daniel R. Kennedy, November 12, 1909. 8vo, gilt-printed brown card covers. 45, (3) pages; 908 lots; 2 photographic plates.

A significant sale featuring ancient gold coins, rare United States pattern coins, and important pioneer and United States gold coins. The plates are extremely rare, with only two sets in private hands known to me, and lacking from the American Numismatic Society Library. They were produced by Edgar H. Adams, a prominent numismatist whose photographic skills were often made use of by Elder. The negatives were signed by Adams, giving his Fourth Avenue, Brooklyn, address. They clearly depict casts of the coins instead of the coins themselves, as is most evident by the holed piece on the second plate. This is unusual for both Adams and Elder, and the reason for producing the plates in this manner is unknown to me. The first plate illustrates the obverse and reverse of eight ancient coins: lots 276–283. The “excessively rare Tarentum stater” promised in the title was lot 280, more cautiously described in the catalogue itself as “A great rarity, not in the Benson sale, and probably not offered here before.” Less cautious was Elder’s hopeful “May be worth \$1200.00 to \$1500”—the piece sold for \$150. Other coins depicted on the plate included a Persian daric (lot 276), staters of Philip II and Alexander (lots 277–279), and a Julius Caesar aureus of the praetor Hirtius (lot 281).

**References:** Adams 34 (rated B+ overall, C in ancients). Davis 352. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.







29. Elder, Thomas L. CATALOGUE OF THE THIRTY-SEVENTH PUBLIC SALE OF COINS, MEDALS, PAPER MONEY, INDIAN RELICS, WEAPONS, ANTIQUES, OLD CHINA, CURIOS, ETC., ETC. INCLUDING: A ROUND \$50 GOLD PIECE, AN OCTAGONAL \$50 GOLD PIECE: "PIKE'S PEAK \$10;" STATE OF CALIFORNIA \$2½ AND \$5 PATTERNS, UNCIRCULATED CLARK & CO. \$5; 1877 \$3; ETC; 1796 AND 1797 U.S. HALF DOLLARS; ABOUT 100 U.S. PATTERNS, SOME OF THEM EXCESSIVELY RARE; 1793, 1799 AND 1804 CENTS; LARGE LOT OF FINE FOREIGN SILVER CROWNS, MEDIAEVAL SILVER, AMERICAN SILVER AND COPPER; THE FINEST LOT OF U.S. FRACTIONAL CURRENCY I HAVE EVER OFFERED; OLD FLINT-LOCK PISTOLS, OLD CHINA; INDIAN ARROWHEADS AND STONE WEAPONS, ETC. ETC., TOTALING ABOUT 1650 LOTS. A TWO DAYS SALE WITH ITEMS OF INTEREST TO SEVERAL CLASSES OF COLLECTORS. New York: Daniel R. Kennedy, February 7–8, 1910. 8vo, gilt-printed brown card covers. 85, (1) pages; 1641 lots; 3 photographic plates.

An extremely rare plated sale: lacking from the American Numismatic Society Library and with only two sets known to me in private hands. The plates are fine, full-tone photographic prints and may well have been the work of Edgar H. Adams. The first depicts U.S. pattern coins; the second exhibits a variety of U.S. coins from half cents to a \$50 Wass, Molitor slug, as well as various Washington pieces and colonials; and the third illustrates some foreign coins, two Pikes Peak gold pieces, additional U.S. patterns, and two Macedonian gold staters of the Alexander type (lots 192 and 193, which brought \$17 and \$29.75, respectively).

**References:** Adams 37 (rated B overall, C in ancients). Davis 354.

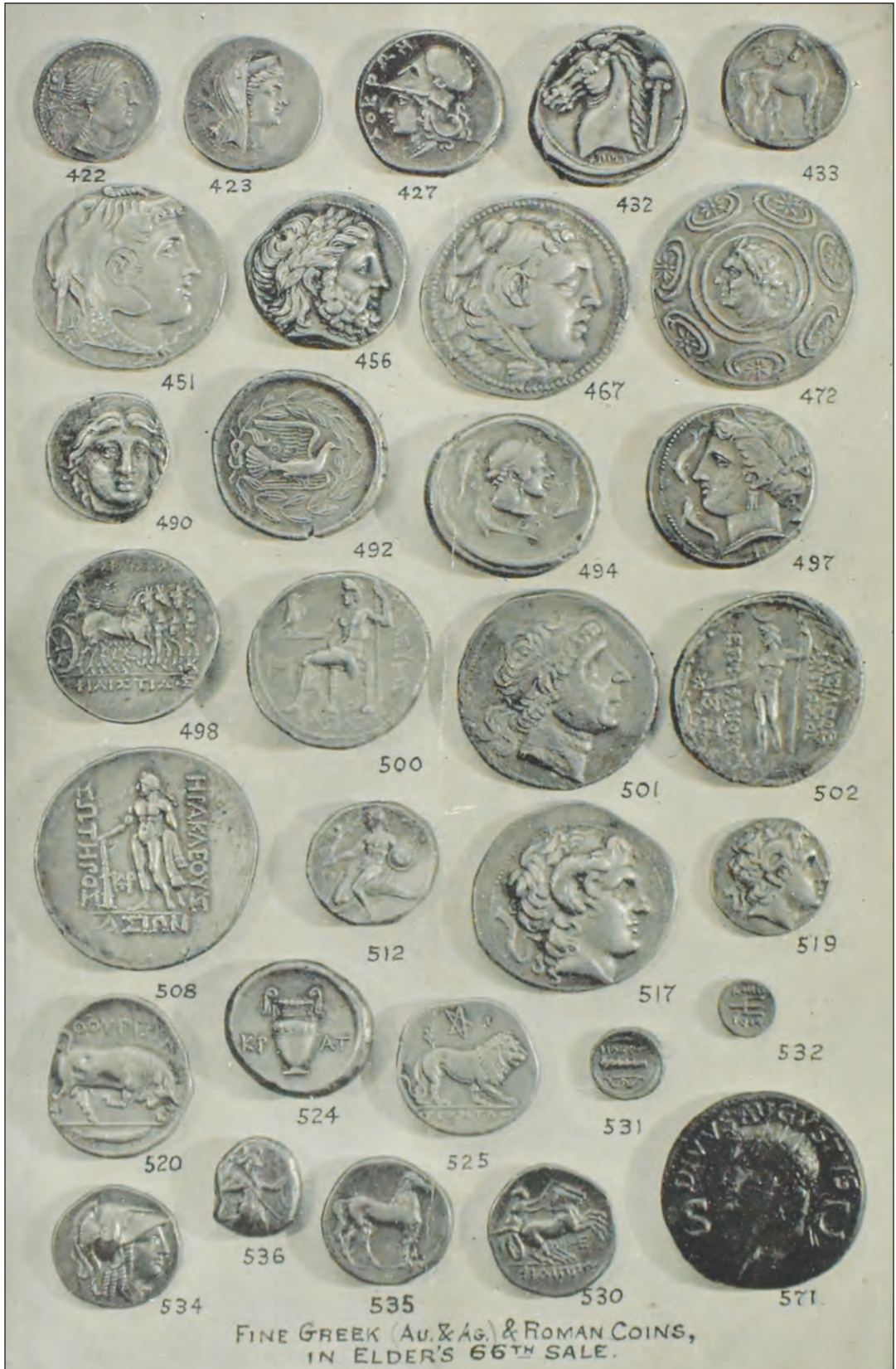


30. Elder, Thomas L. CATALOGUE OF THE SIXTY-SIXTH PUBLIC SALE. FOREIGN CROWNS, FOREIGN SILVER MEDALS, ANCIENT GOLD AND SILVER COINS, RARE U.S. GOLD, SILVER, U.S. CENTS, HALF CENTS, CONFEDERATE PAPER MONEY, ETC, INCLUDING MANY RARE AND INTERESTING SPECIMENS IN FINE CONDITION. OVER 1775 LOTS. New York: Daniel R. Kennedy, September 27–28, 1912. 8vo, silver-printed black card covers. 81, (3) pages; 1794 lots; frontispiece halftone plate; halftone “Extra Plate” loosely laid in.

An important sale of American and European medals, ancient Greek coins, and early United States proof sets. Both plates are entirely devoted to ancient coins, mostly Greek silver, but including some gold pieces such as staters of Philip II of Macedonia and Alexander the Great (lots 530 and 534) that sold for \$23.50 and \$26.00, respectively. Very scarce. According to Gengerke, the collection belonged to B.M. Ormond.

**References:** Adams 66 (rated B+ overall, B in ancients). Davis 358. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.







31. Elder, Thomas L. PUBLIC AUCTION SALE OF THE GEORGE C. CARLTON COLLECTION OF UNITED STATES CENTS., ETC., AND OTHER PROPERTIES INCLUDING OVER 300 LOTS OF FINE OR UNCIRCULATED CENTS, 300 LOTS OF U.S. PRIVATE AND FOREIGN GOLD COINS, 200 LOTS OF PAPER MONEY, 150 LOTS OF CUT AND POLISHED GEM STONES, ETC. WITH A VERY FINE OCTAGONAL \$50 SLUG OF 1851, CHOICE BECHTLER COIN COLLECTION, KELLOGG \$20S, EARLY EAGLES, HALF EAGLES, QUARTER EAGLES, THREE DOLLARS AND ONE DOLLAR GOLD (WITH ABOUT ALL THE BRANCH MINTS), REGULAR U.S. SILVER AND MINOR COINS, A GROUP OF EXCEEDINGLY RARE PATTERN SMALL CENT COINS; CHOICE FOREIGN SILVER, EXCEPTIONAL COLONIAL AND CONTINENTAL CURRENCY, FRACTIONAL CURRENCY, EARLY SMALL NOTES OF NEW YORK CITY, LETTER WRITTEN BY GEORGE WASHINGTON, VARIOUS ANTIQUES, ETC., ETC., OVER 2300 VARIED LOTS. THE MOST IMPORTANT SALE SINCE THE MILLER SALE. AT ABSOLUTE SALE WITHOUT RESERVE. New York: Elder Auction Rooms, December 6–8, 1917. 4to, printed tan card covers. 93, (3) pages; 2304 lots; 5 large [8 by 10 inch] photographic plates tipped in.

A rare plated sale. A few ancient coins are found scattered among three plates of this sale, which is significant for American issues but of decidedly less importance for ancients. The first plate includes an illustration (obverse only) of lot 1539, a silver stater of Locri Epizephyrii of the Zeus/Eagle type.

**References:** Adams 152 (rated B+ overall, unrated for ancients). Davis 360.



32. Elder, Thomas L. PUBLIC AUCTION SALE OF THE ROBERT HEWITT AND B.C. BARTLETT COLLECTIONS OF CHOICE AND VALUABLE COINS, MEDALS, TOKENS, PAPER MONEY, GEMS, CURIOS, ETC. INCLUDING ONE OF THE FINEST COLLECTIONS OF EARLY AMERICAN POLITICAL MEDALS AND TOKENS EVER OFFERED AT SALE; CHOICE U.S. PRIVATE GOLD, TWO EXTREMELY FINE OCTAGONAL SLUGS WITH INCUSE OBVERSE DESIGN, A RARE 1880 STELLA IN GOLD; MUCH FOREIGN GOLD WITH ANCIENT AND A JAPANESE GOLD OBAN; CHOICE EARLY MASSACHUSETTS SILVER, A NEW HAMPSHIRE CENT; FINE EARLY U.S. SILVER DOLLARS, HALF DOLLARS, QUARTERS, DIMES AND HALF DIMES, WITH HALF DOLLARS OF 1796 AND 1797, QUARTER DOLLAR OF 1823, AN 1802 HALF DIME, A QUARTER EAGLE OF 1798, U.S. \$3.00 AND \$1.00 GOLD PIECES; VERY RARE U.S. PATTERN COINS; ANCIENT GOLD AND SILVER COINS, CUFIC GLASS WEIGHTS, JACKSON TOKENS, MERCHANTS CARDS, U.S. FRACTIONAL CURRENCY, STONE AGE RELICS FROM THE WEST INDIES, SILVER IMAGES MADE BY PERUVIAN INDIANS, FINE CUT GEMS, ETC., ETC., OVER 1600 LOTS. New York: Elder Auction Rooms, January 25–26, 1918. 4to, printed tan card covers. 78, (2) pages; 1639 lots; 8 photographic plates.

A very scarce plated sale, important for American coins if less so for other areas. The third and fifth plates illustrate a wide variety of material, including ancient Greek and Roman silver coins. The offerings in this area are, however, meager, with a “splendid” tetradrachm of Ptolemy I Soter (lot 697 at \$5.00) and what appears to be (only one side being shown) a Roman Republican didrachm of the Crawford 20/1a Romulus and Remus ROMANO type (lot 701 at \$8.75) being highlights.

**References:** Adams 153 (rated A– overall, unrated in ancients). Davis 361.

Note — an offprint of the first day’s sale exists:

32a. Elder, Thomas L. PUBLIC AUCTION SALE OF THE ROBERT HEWITT COLLECTION OF POLITICAL MEDALS, TOKENS, AND UNITED STATES CENTS. INCLUDING ESPECIALLY LARGE AND IMPORTANT PIECES STRUCK TO ANDREW JACKSON, MARTIN VAN BUREN, HENRY CLAY, ZACHARY TAYLOR, STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS, ETC., ETC. New York: Elder Auction Rooms, January 25, 1918. 4to, printed brown card covers. 21, (3) pages; 336 lots; 3 photographic plates.

Only 15 copies were produced of the offprint of the Robert Hewitt collection, with three exceptional photographic plates (the first three of the sale). The third plate illustrates a wide variety of material, including the ancient Greek coins discussed in my comments on the full catalogue. Extremely rare.

**References:** Adams 153A (rated A– overall, unrated in ancients).







33. Elder, Thomas L. CATALOGUE OF AN IMPORTANT PUBLIC SALE INCLUDING THE NOTED RAMSEY MCCOY COLLECTION OF AMERICAN POLITICAL MEDALS AND TOKENS, THE FINEST COLLECTION OF ITS KIND EVER OFFERED FOR SALE. THE LARGE AND FINE COLLECTION OF U.S. CENTS AND HALF CENTS OF R.E. BROWN, OF BROOKLYN, N.Y. THE H.C. EZEKIEL COLLECTION OF JEWISH COINS, MEDALS, TOKENS. INCLUDING THE LARGEST NUMBER OF THESE COINS AND MEDALS EVER OFFERED AT AUCTION SALE; AND MANY OTHER SMALLER COLLECTIONS OF IMPORTANCE, WITH MANY FINE GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER COINS, UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN MEDALS AND TOKENS OF ALL KINDS, INTERESTING CONTINENTAL PAPER MONEY, BROKEN BANK NOTES, ETC. A RARE BECHTLER QUARTER EAGLE OF GEORGIA GOLD, RARE HALF CENTS OF 1796, 1842 AND 1852, WONDERFUL JACKSON, HARRISON, VAN BUREN, CLAY AND LINCOLN COLLECTIONS, ETC., ETC., ABOUT 2800 LOTS, BEING THE LARGEST SALE WE HAVE HELD IN MANY YEARS. New York: Elder Coin & Curio Co., March 20–23, 1918. 4to, printed light brown card covers. 125, (3) pages; 2704 lots; 8 photographic plates.

An important catalogue with exceptional plates, the work of Edgar H. Adams and among his finest numismatic photography. The second plate illustrates political medals and tokens, several choice American coins, and three ancient Jewish coins: lots 914, 915 and 936 (one side only of each), being a Year One shekel (914), a Year Two half shekel (915), and a Bar Kokhba shekel (936) declared by Elder to be “the last silver coin struck by the Jews.” Very scarce with plates.

**References:** Adams 154 (rated A overall, A for ancients). Davis 362.



34. Elder, Thomas L. PUBLIC AUCTION SALE. THE WRIGHT-PEHRSON COLLECTIONS OF COINS, MEDALS, NUMISMATIC BOOKS AND PAPER MONEY INCLUDING ALSO A LONG ISLAND CONSIGNMENT OF FINE PAPER MONEY AND COINS, SIEGE PIECES, ANCIENT GOLD AND SILVER; A FINE COLLECTION OF MINT MARKED UNITED STATES SILVER COINS, U.S. SILVER DOLLAR OF 1794, GOLD DOLLAR OF 1864, A WILLOW TREE SHILLING OF MASSACHUSETTS, A LARGE LOT OF THREE DOLLAR GOLD PIECES, A CHOICE LOT OF NUMISMATIC BOOKS, AND THE FINEST COLLECTION OF UNITED STATES, CONFEDERATE AND BROKEN BANK PAPER MONEY OFFERED IN YEARS. AROUND 2000 VARIED LOTS. New York: Elder Auction Rooms, May 9–11, 1918. 8vo, printed tan card covers. 92, (4) pages; 1994 lots; 5 photographic plates.

Another rare plated catalogue. Plate 2 includes images (one side each) of four Greek gold coins (lots 1034–1037), namely two Carthaginian staters, a Persian daric, and a stater of Alexander the Great, along with a Roman Provincial gold piece (lot 1038) of the Bosphorus kingdom during the time of Phescuporis III showing the reverse head of Elagabalus. Plate 3 includes images of lots 1039–1041, 1043, 1056, 1059, and 1060A, being Greek and Roman silver coins including a didrachm of Himera and the elephant denarius of the Caesarians. Plate 4 includes the obverse of lot 1210, a silver antoninianus of Balbinus. Adams incorrectly calls for only four plates.

**References:** Adams 155 (rated A overall, B for ancients). Davis 363.







35. Elder, Thomas L. PUBLIC AUCTION SALE OF A VERY FINE PRIVATE COLLECTION OF RARE COINS, MEDALS AND PAPER MONEY; SEVERAL HUNDRED RARE AND CHOICE ANCIENT, MEDIAEVAL AND MODERN GOLD COINS; GOLD OBAN, LARGE AND VARIED COLLECTION OF ANCIENT AND MODERN SILVER COINS OF ALL SIZES, ROMAN BRONZE COINS, CHOICE EARLY ENGLISH GOLD PIECES AND PATTERNS; A FINE COLLECTION OF ORIENTAL AND JAPANESE GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZE COINS AND MEDALS; EARLY UNCIRCULATED UNITED STATES CENTS OF 1793, 1794, 1795, 1803 AND LATER; RARE PROOF SILVER DOLLARS OF 1836, 1847, 1849, 1853 AND 1858; PROOF HALF DOLLAR OF 1838 WITH FLYING EAGLE REVERSE, RARE AMERICAN GOLD, JACKSON TOKENS AND MANY OTHER PIECES OF INTEREST. WITHOUT RESERVE, IN TWO SESSIONS. New York: Daniel R. Kennedy, April 30–May 1, 1920. 8vo, printed tan card covers. (2), 76, (4) pages; 14 blank leaves interspersed throughout the text; 1508 lots; 14 photographic plates.

Rare: only three plated examples have appeared for sale since 1980. Possibly Elder's most convoluted sale, and that is saying something. There frequently seems to be no organization at all, with the catalogue jumping from subject to subject seemingly at random—and what categories exist often confuse more than clarify (this must be the first time this writer has encountered an auction category of "Gold Coins of Scotland & India," as one does on page 71). As a result, one finds ancient coins depicted on Plates 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, and 13. Plate 3 is almost completely devoted to ancient Greek silver coins (though a couple of U.S. gold coins and an Austrian ducat are thrown in for kicks), highlighted by lot 177, an exceptional tetradrachm of Perseus that brought a robust \$85 hammer, and lot 178, a tetradrachm of Antigonos II Gonatas of the shield type that sold for \$30. The first plate includes a few ancient gold coins, including an uncirculated mnaieion (oktadrachm) of Arsinoe II Philadelphos (which brought \$135). Gengerke gives the consignor's name as Davis.

**References:** Adams 171 (rated A– overall, A for ancients). Davis 364.



36. Elder, Thomas L. **CATALOGUE OF THE SPLENDID RARE COIN COLLECTION OF THE LATE HENRY C. MILLER, ESQR. OF NEW YORK CITY.** New York: Daniel R. Kennedy, May 26–29, 1920. 4to, black cloth, upper cover lettered in gilt. 154, (6) pages; 2212 lots; 28 photographic plates bound in on cloth hinges.

A magnificent collection of early English coins, Roman silver, and important American colonials. While considered a classic catalogue in the field of early American coinage, the significance of this sale for Roman and British coins has largely been forgotten. With 14 photographic plates of Roman Imperial coins (not to mention scattered Roman Republican, Celtic and Byzantine coins), this is probably the most important plated sale of ancient coins missed by Spring. Plated Miller catalogues are noted rarities and have always been desirable: in his description of a copy offered in a 1929 auction, Elder wrote: “Very rare. Not over 8 or 10 Plate catalogs were issued.” Elder may have been understating the number produced, but there could be only that many extant today. The first eight plates depict British coins from Celtic times through Queen Victoria’s reign, as well as several Roman Republican coins; the ninth through twenty-second plates illustrate a wide variety of ancient Roman coins, along with a few Byzantine pieces and several coins of Roman Egypt; and the final six plates are devoted to American colonial coins. For the purposes of this study, Plates 1 and 8–22 are relevant. Lots 520–1456 are Roman coins, a large proportion of which are depicted on the plates. A few highlights include an EID MAR denarius (lot 712) that sold for \$140; a Cleopatra & Mark Antony denarius (lot 715) that sold for \$75; and a Pax Augusti sestertius of Vitellius (lot 1027) that brought \$112.50. Elder’s frequent practice of depicting only the obverses of coins reaches its peak absurdity here: this is probably the only ancient coin catalogue ever produced that depicts only the portrait side of the EID MAR denarius and only the Mark Antony side of the Cleopatra piece.

**References:** Adams 172 (rated A+ overall, A for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 14081. Davis 365. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.



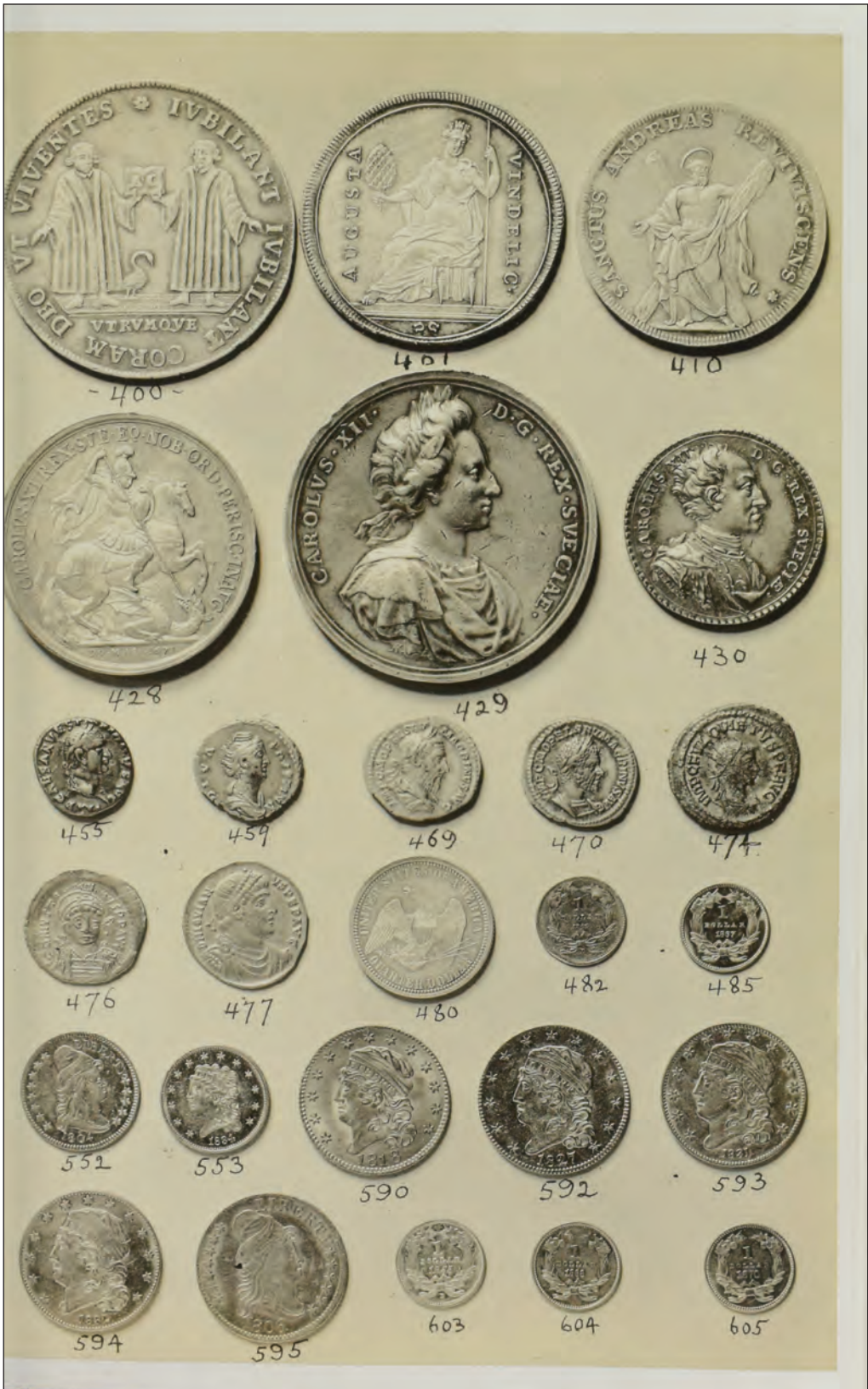




37. Elder, Thomas L. **PUBLIC SALE. THE PROPERTIES OF AN ESTATE AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS. MAGNIFICENT COLLECTIONS OF UNITED STATES CENTS AND HALF CENTS, UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN GOLD COINS, PAPER MONEY, TOKENS, ETC. WITH FOUR GOBRECHT DOLLARS OF 1836, ONE WITH “GOBRECHT’S NAME IN THE FIELD;” TWO DOLLARS OF 1839, THREE OF 1858; VERY RARE HALF EAGLES OF 1818, 1821, 1827, 1831, 1832, ETC. SPLENDID COLONIAL PIECES WITH RARE MARYLAND AND SOMMER ISLAND COINS; MUCH FOREIGN SILVER, PRIVATE GOLD, 300 FOREIGN GOLD COINS, ETC., ETC. ABOUT 1550 LOTS, IN TWO SESSIONS, WITHOUT RESERVE.** New York: Daniel R. Kennedy, July 9–10, 1920. 8vo, printed pale green card covers. 81, (3) pages; 1587 lots; 13 photographic plates.

The Craig Clare sale, another very rare plated Elder catalogue, with only a few copies known to exist. For a sale that includes ancient coins on five of its thirteen plates, however, it must be said that the coins disappoint. Plate 2 depicts four Roman denarii (lots 455, 459, 469, and 470) and an antoninianus of Quietus (lot 474); Plate 3 includes a gold stater in the name of Alexander (lot 640); Plate 9 shows three minor Roman silver coins (lots 1106, 1107, and 1110), with a fourth (1112) shown on the following plate; and Plate 13 includes a stater of Philip III (lot 1339) and seven early silver drachms of Sinope of the eagle/dolphin type (lots 1331–1337). Plated copies have the text printed on fine Flat Rock Text watermarked paper; the regular editions are on ordinary paper.

**References:** Adams 173 (rated A– overall, C for ancients). Davis 366.



38. Elder, Thomas L. PUBLIC AUCTION SALE OF THE RARE COIN COLLECTIONS OF THE LATE M.K. MCMULLIN, ESQR., OF PITTSBURG (SOLD BY ORDER OF MRS. MCMULLIN), H.C. WHIPPLE, ESQR., AND OTHERS. RARE UNITED STATES GOLD COINS, NUMBERING ABOUT 300 PIECES, WITH FIVE \$50 GOLD PIECES; PRIVATE GOLD, ETC., ALL DENOMINATIONS DOWN TO THE GOLD QUARTER; ABOUT 400 FOREIGN GOLD COINS, FROM OBAN DOWN TO THE SMALLEST SIZE. RARE AND CHOICE FOREIGN SILVER COINS; MANY RARE GREEK AND ROMAN COINS IN GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZE; SPLENDID U.S. CENT COLLECTION, WITH ALL DATES INCLUDED; FINE HALF CENTS; CHOICE COLONIAL AND CONTINENTAL AMERICAN COINS; CONFEDERATE, BROKEN BANK AND U.S. FRACTIONAL CURRENCY IN LARGE QUANTITY; RARE ANCIENT GREEK GLASS; 25 BABYLONIAN CYLINDER SEALS; THE RAREST AND OLDEST NUMISMATIC BOOKS, ETC., ETC., ABOUT 2800 LOTS. New York: Daniel R. Kennedy, February 23–26, 1921. 8vo, gilt-printed brown card covers. 150, (2) pages; 2856 lots; 16 photographic plates.

A very rare plated catalogue, with superb plates. Plate 12 depicts a number of ancient coins, including an aureus of Constantius II (lot 1183 at \$9), an EID MAR denarius (lot 1188 at \$4.50), two denarii of Cleopatra and Mark Antony (lots 1189 at \$12 and 1190 at \$9.25), and various other gold and silver pieces. A bronze of Faustina the Elder (lot 581 at \$2.90) is included on Plate 9. Lot 863 is Walther Voight's Syracusan dekadrachm by Euainetos, which is depicted on Plate 11. According to Elder, the piece "could be called fine," and it sold for only \$175—a price that reflects the piece's somewhat pock-marked condition (this piece is identified as ex Headlam [Sotheby's, May 8–10, 1916, lot 112], listed by Gallatin as F.IV: R. XII-1).

**References:** Adams 177 (rated A overall, A for ancients). Davis 367.







39. Elder, Thomas L. CATALOGUE OF THE IMPORTANT COLLECTION OF RARE COINS AND MEDALS FORMED BY THE LATE DR. GEORGE ALFRED LAWRENCE, OF NEW YORK. FINE AND RARE ANCIENT, MEDIAEVAL AND MODERN GOLD, PLATINUM, SILVER AND BRONZE COINS AND MEDALS. GREEK, ROMAN, SYRIAN, EGYPTIAN AND BYZANTINE GOLD AND SILVER; FINE GREEK AND ROMAN BRONZE COINS, OVER 510 LOTS; ALSO FINE MEDIAEVAL ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN GOLD AND SILVER, PATTERN COINS, ORIENTAL AND SIEGE COINS, MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION OF COINS OF THE KNIGHTS OF ST. JOHN, OF CYPRUS, RHODES AND MALTA; FINE AMERICAN COLONIAL AND CONTINENTAL ISSUES FROM 1652; MASSACHUSETTS SILVER, LORD BALTIMORE AND ANNAPOLIS SILVER COINS; SPLENDID COLLECTION OF THE PRIVATE AMERICAN GOLD COINS OF CALIFORNIA, COLORADO, UTAH, OREGON, NORTH CAROLINA, ETC. WITH DUBOSQ & CO. \$10; SHULTS & COMPANY \$5; MASSACHUSETTS & CALIFORNIA CO. \$5; MOFFAT & CO. \$16.00 OBLONG BAR; WASS MOLITER & CO. \$20, WITH LARGE HEAD, DATED 1855; TWELVE \$50 GOLD COINS, INCLUDING KELLOGG & CO. ROUND PROOF DATED 1855; WASS MOLITER & CO. \$50 DATED 1855, AND OTHERS IN VERY FINE TO UNCIRCULATED CONDITION. CALIFORNIA GOLD DOLLARS, HALF AND QUARTER DOLLARS, MEDALS, ETC., ETC. New York: Walter C. Gilbert, June 26–28, 1929. 4to, gilt-printed card covers. 107, (5) pages; 11 blank leaves interspersed throughout the text; 1544 lots; 22 photographic plates, generally loosely inserted.

Best known for his collection of California and other private and territorial gold coins, California neurologist George Alfred Lawrence formed collections of a wide range of coins, including ancients. The catalogue is found in a variety of printings, and the number of plates included varies. While most seem to have the full complement of 22 high-quality plates, occasionally one sees copies with fewer—usually limited to a specific collecting specialty, suggesting that the absence of the others is not accidental. The first four plates all depict ancient coins; they are beautifully executed and are among the best of their kind. Plate 1 depicts Celtic, Greek, Roman and Byzantine gold coins, including an aureus of Faustina the Elder (lot 29, at \$75) and a mnaieion (oktadrachm) of Arsinoe II Philadelphos (lot 5, at \$60). The second plate illustrates a number of fine Greek silver coins (featuring, among others, a tetradrachm of Demetrius Poliorcetes—lot 113—which brought \$50) as well as several ancient Jewish pieces, including Year Two and Year Three shekels (lots 199 and 200, at \$50 and \$51, respectively). Plate 3 depicts several Greek silver coins before beginning to illustrate the Roman bronzes. Plate 4 is entirely devoted to Roman bronzes, mostly sestertii.

**References:** Adams 222 (rated A+ overall, A for ancients). Davis 370. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.

*Photo courtesy of the American Numismatic Society*





Ed Frossard, as depicted in the May 1895 issue of *The Numismatist*, official publication of the American Numismatic Association ([money.org](http://money.org)).



## ÉDOUARD FROSSARD

One of the more energetic pliers of his trade, coin dealer Édouard Frossard (1837–1899) established his reputation through a series of publications. Included were three books, a lively (if often libelous) journal that ran for ten volumes, sundry fixed price lists and over 160 auction catalogues. This impressive output is all the more remarkable when one considers that it was accomplished in the little more than twenty years that constituted Frossard's professional life in numismatics. Adding to his numismatic accomplishments are the facts that Frossard was an American Civil War hero, a language teacher who had founded his own school, and an immigrant who had proceeded directly to the largest city of his new country and made a name for himself. Ed Frossard was a man with whom one would do well not to trifle.

While Frossard's considerable corpus of auction catalogues would be enough to ensure his legacy, he also wrote three substantial books on various aspects of North American coins: *Monograph of United States Cents and Half Cents Issued between the Years 1793 and 1857* (1879); *Varieties of United States Cents of the Year 1794* (1893, with W.W. Hays); and *Franco-American Jetons, Fully Described and Illustrated* (1899). Finally, his house organ *Numisma*, published from 1877 to 1891, remains entertaining and informative to read even today. It may have ensured his enduring fame even if it were all he ever published.

Of European extraction, it is perhaps unsurprising that Frossard's familiarity with ancient coins was greater than that of most of his native-born American colleagues. Indeed, none of the cataloguers included in John W. Adams's *United States Numismatic Literature. Volume I: Nineteenth Century Auction Catalogs*, has more catalogues rated for ancient numismatic content than Frossard (Lyman Low ties him at 48, though six of Frossard's catalogues receive an A rating, while only one of Low's is accorded that superlative).<sup>\*</sup> Though best remembered today for his expertise in early American large cents and Franco-American jetons, his knowledge of ancient coins was considerable and his activities in that area were extensive.

<sup>\*</sup> See the appendices for additional statistical analysis of the catalogues included in this volume.



40. Frossard, Ed. **CATALOGUE OF A SILVER CABINET, ANCIENT AND MODERN PORTRAIT COINS, AND MEDALS OF ARTISTIC AND HISTORICAL VALUE, COMPRISING COINS OF GERMANY, FRANCE, ITALY, ENGLAND, SWITZERLAND, RUSSIA, SPAIN, MEXICO, SOUTH AMERICA, ASIA, ETC. NEARLY ALL OF THE CROWN SIZE OR ITS MULTIPLES. THE PROPERTY OF J.W. MARSH, ESQ., OF JACKSONVILLE, ILLINOIS. TO WHICH ARE ADDED THE REMAINING AMERICAN COINS OF E.F. KUITHAN, ESQ. AND SEVERAL SMALL INVOICES COMPRISING FINE AMERICAN AND FOREIGN COINS, ANCIENT ROMAN AES, EARLY CHINESE COINS, CONFEDERATE NOTES, ETC.** New York: Bangs & Co., March 14, 1884. 8vo, printed pink paper covers. 35, (3) pages; 613 lots; 3 collotype plates. Usually bound with both an erroneous and corrected version of the leaf comprising pages 3–4.

Includes two plates primarily illustrating European silver coins, though some U.S. silver (including a 1794 dollar) is included, as are five ancient Greek silver coins, which appear on Plate 2. The five pieces are tetradrachms of: Athens (lot 486, withdrawn from the sale); Galatea (lot 492 at \$5); Macedonia (lot 494 at \$5.20); Aesillas the Quaestor (lot 496 at \$5.10); and Tyre (lot 506 at \$5.60). Fifty copies of the catalogue were issued with plates and printed on thick paper. Frossard issued thick-paper copies, generally hand-priced after the sale, of most of his auctions, whether they were published with a plated option or not; his plated catalogues are almost always printed on thick paper.

**References:** Adams 35 (rated B overall, C for ancients). Davis 405.



PLATE II.

41. Frossard, Ed. **CATALOGUE OF THE COLLECTION OF COINS AND MEDALS OF ED. FROSSARD, OF IRVINGTON, N.Y. COMPRISING EARLY ISSUES OF THE AMERICAN MINT, REMARKABLE ALIKE FOR BEAUTY AND RARITY. COLONIAL COINS, PATTERN PIECES, JACKSONIAN AND FEUCHTWANGER CURRENCY, CONFEDERATE COINS AND MEDALS, A SET OF 1794 CENTS AND HALF CENTS. AMERICAN MEDALS, SILVER; FRACTIONAL CURRENCY, ETC., ETC. RARE AND VALUABLE REPRESENTATIVE FOREIGN COINS OF ALL AGES AND COUNTRIES, IN GOLD, SILVER, PLATINUM AND COPPER.** New York: Bangs & Co., October 2–3, 1884. 8vo, printed pink paper covers. 77, (3) pages; 1038 lots; 9 tinted colotype plates.

The very important Frossard collection, with 9 heliotype plates. One hundred copies were published with plates, printed on thick paper. The catalogue is justly famous for Frossard's remarkably fine collection of 1794 cents. The sale also featured rare and important coins in many other fields. Plate 2 depicts the obverses of four Greek and eight Roman gold coins, including a gold dekadrachm of Syracuse of the period of Hieron II (lot 219 at \$18.75), and aurei of Julius Caesar (fifth consulate, lot 225 at \$15.50), Augustus (lot 228 at \$10), Tiberius (lot 229 at \$12.50), Claudius (lot 230 at \$15.50), Titus (lot 231 at \$15.50), Hadrian (lot 232 at \$15.50), Marcus Aurelius (lot 234 at \$15.50), and Lucilla (lot 235 at \$17.50). Plate 8 depicts a few ancient silver coins including a Year One shekel of the Jewish War (lot 928 at \$25). Even regular catalogues of this sale have been scarce from the time of issue. Frossard notes in the errata sheet at the end of this special edition that "The supply of this Catalogue having fallen far short of the demand, subscribers who have no further use for their copies of the ORDINARY EDITION ARE EARNESTLY REQUESTED TO RETURN THE SAME..."

**References:** Adams 37 (rated A+ overall, A for ancients). Davis 406.





PLATE II.



42. Frossard, Ed. **CATALOGUE OF SEVERAL SMALL COLLECTIONS OF AMERICAN AND FOREIGN COINS AND MEDALS COMPRISING RARE DOLLARS, PATTERN PIECES, FINE CENTS AND HALF CENTS, ETC. ALSO FINE GREEK COINS FROM THE COLLECTION OF R. HOBART SMITH, ESQ., OF NEW YORK CITY.** New York: Bangs & Co., December 20, 1884. 8vo, printed pink paper covers. 26 pages; 587 lots; one collotype plate.

Frossard's fortieth sale, of which fifty copies were issued with a collotype plate, printed on thick paper. The sole plate is entirely devoted to ancient Greek coins. Highlights include a tetradrachm of Thurium (lot 434 at \$15), a didrachm of Velia (lot 440 at \$8.50), fine tetradrachms of Syracuse (lots 451 and 452 at \$22 and \$9.50, respectively), a didrachm of Locris (lot 467 at \$7.25), an archaic tetradrachm of Athens (lot 478 at \$9.25) and a gold stater of Philip II of Macedonia (lot 504 at \$20).

**References:** Adams 40 (rated B– overall, B for ancients). Davis 407. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.



43. Frossard, Ed. COINS OF THE ORIENT. A REMARKABLE, VALUABLE AND INTERESTING COLLECTION, CONSISTING OF FIFTEEN HUNDRED SELECTED EXAMPLES OF THE COINAGES OF ASIA AND AFRICA, COMPRISING ANCIENT AND MODERN, NATIVE AND COLONIAL COINS, IN A SURPRISING VARIETY OF MATERIAL, FORM, SIZE, AND TYPE, ILLUSTRATING THE CURRENCY OF ORIENTAL NATIONS BY SUPERB AND AUTHENTIC SPECIMENS IN GOLD, SILVER, BRONZE, COPPER, BRASS, TIN, LEAD, GLASS, PORCELAIN, LEATHER, CLOTH, SHELLS, BEADS, AND FORMING A UNIQUE COLLECTION OF THE HIGHEST INTEREST AND VALUE TO ARCHAEOLOGISTS, PHILOLOGISTS, ETHNOLOGISTS, NUMISMATISTS AND ORIENTAL SCHOLARS. New York: Geo. A. Leavitt & Co., July 16–17, 1885. 8vo, printed red paper covers. 58, (2) pages; 1083 lots; 4 tinted collotype plates.

A very scarce plated Frossard sale, and an impressive one. Only twenty-five copies were published with plates. Depicted on the plates are an amazing variety of Indian, Islamic, Far Eastern, and colonial coins, medals, tokens, etc. In the *Proem*, Frossard notes that this catalogue was patterned after Adolph Weyl's famous 1879 Jules Fonrobert sale, "which collection contributed much of its best material to this representative Cabinet." Plate 3 includes one Parthian drachm attributed to Mithridates I (lot 710 at \$1.20), itself unimportant but included here for completion's sake. The plated catalogues are encountered on both thick and regular paper.

**References:** Adams 44 (rated B+ overall, unrated for ancients). Davis 408.





PLATE III.



44. Frossard, Ed. **RUSSIAN COLLECTION, PART III. ANCIENT COINS OF GREECE AND ROME, INCLUDING AN EXTREMELY FINE SERIES OF ROMAN BRONZE, FOREIGN COPPER COINS, PAPAL MEDALS, MODERN GOLD COINS, ETC., ETC. THE PROPERTY OF WM. B. EDWARDS, ESQ., LATE OF ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA. WITH ADDENDA OF RARE COLONIAL COINS AND MEDALS, EARLY AMERICAN COINS IN GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER, A CONFEDERATE STATES HALF DIME, SPANISH-AMERICAN PROCLAMATION DOLLARS, COPPER COINS OF ITALY AND MEXICO, ETC., ETC. ALSO THE SMALL BUT FINE COLLECTION OF ANCIENT COINS OF JUSTUS B. HAWLEY, ESQ., OF HORNELLSVILLE, N.Y.** New York: Geo. A. Leavitt & Co., May 24–25, 1887. 8vo, printed red paper covers. 52 pages; 981 lots; 3 collotype plates.

Frossard writes in his introduction to the sale that it “comprises the entire remainder of the large and fine Collection of Coins, etc., formed by Wm. B. Edwards, Esq., during a sojourn of twenty-eight years in various parts of the Russian Empire,” and stresses the importance of the ancient coins featured in the sale. Fifty copies of the plated catalogue were produced, with the first two plates being devoted to ancient coins. The plates are interesting in that they focus much of their attention on the large Roman bronzes; it was often the case at this time that even exceptionally well-preserved and distinctive bronzes would be overshadowed by generic ancient gold and silver coins. A few highlights include a dupondius of the DIVVS AVGVSTVS / DIVA AVGVSTA type (lot 397 at \$10.75), a sestertius of Nero from the Anthon collection (lot 931 at \$16), and a silver stater of Kydonia (lot 878 at \$22.60). The quality of the second plate is not as good as the first, being a bit mushy.

**References:** Adams 69 (rated B+ overall, B+ for ancients). Davis 410. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.



45. Frossard, Ed. **CATALOGUE OF THE IMPORTANT HISTORICAL COLLECTION OF COINS AND MEDALS MADE BY GERALD E. HART, ESQ. PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY FOR HISTORICAL STUDIES, PAST VICE-PRESIDENT AND LIFE MEMBER OF THE NUMISMATIC AND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY, MONTREAL, ETC. COMPRISING ANCIENT COINS OF GREECE, ROME AND JUDAEA, MEDIAEVAL AND MODERN COINS, CHIEFLY OF FRANCE AND ENGLAND, IN GOLD AND SILVER, HISTORICAL MEDALS OF AMERICA, A MOST COMPLETE COLLECTION OF COINS, MEDALS AND TOKENS OF CANADA, ETC.** New York: Geo. A. Leavitt & Co., December 26–28, 1888. 8vo, printed red paper covers. iv, (3)–114 pages; 1672 lots; 6 collotype plates issued separately in a printed envelope.

The Hart collection was one of the great all-time American sales of Canadian coins, tokens and medals. Seventy-five thick-paper copies were issued with plates, housed in a printed envelope, and many have been separated over the years. Plates 1–3 include ancient coins, with Plate 2 being entirely devoted to them. Some highlights include: an aureus of Vibia (lot 570 at \$18); a Carthaginian double stater (lot 666 at \$26); a Syracusan dekadrachm of Euainetos (lot 720 at \$60); an exceptional Syracusan tetradrachm (lot 721 at \$35); coins of the Jewish War including shekels of Year 2 and 3 (lots 792 and 793 at \$21.50 and \$21, respectively), and a half shekel of Year 3 (lot 794 at \$20); and an aureus of Vespasian commemorating the capture of Judaea (lot 845 at \$30.50). Depicting 53 ancient coins, the plates of the Hart sale are genuinely important, and the sale includes a number of notable ancients that didn't make it onto the plates.

**References:** Adams 89 (rated A+ overall, A for ancients). Davis 411. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.



## Plate II.





46. Frossard, Ed. CATALOGUE OF SEVERAL IMPORTANT INVOICES OF AMERICAN, FOREIGN AND ANCIENT COINS AND MEDALS, IN GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER, COMPRISING THE COLLECTIONS OF MESSRS. NATHANIEL N. THAYER, OF BOSTON, MASS.; D.H. TURNER, TOWANDA, PA.; SILVER COINS AND MEDALS FROM THE JOHN ALLAN CABINET, AND OTHER SOURCES. ANCIENT COINS OF GREECE AND ROME; FAMILY DENarii; MEDICAL, MASONIC, WAR, PROCLAMATION MEDALS; FRANCO-AMERICAN COINS AND JETONS; THE CABINET OF GOLD COINS OF THE LATE C.M. GIGNOUX, ESQ., ETC., ETC., ETC. New York: Geo. A. Leavitt & Co., March 12–13, 1889. 8vo, printed red paper covers. 47, (1) pages; 961 lots; 2 tinted collotype plates.

A scarce plated sale, with only 25 copies having been prepared, printed on thick paper. The second plate features eleven ancient gold coins, with a particularly strong offering of Ptolemaic gold including lot 739, a gold mnaieion (oktadrachm) of Ptolemy II Philadelphos with Arsinoe II (Ptolemy I and Berenike I on reverse), which brought an exceptionally strong \$157.50. Other highlights include a mnaieion of Arsinoe II (lot 741 at \$77), and didrachms of the Ptolemy Soter and Ptolemy/Arsinoe types (lots 738 and 740 at \$80 and \$43, respectively). A quinarius and aureus of Tiberius are depicted, as are aurei of Claudius and Marcus Aurelius. Greek pieces are represented by gold coins of Syracuse, Macedonia and Carthage. The catalogue manages to include a remarkably choice offering of ancient gold in just about one page of text.

**References:** Adams 90 (rated B overall, B for ancients). Davis 412.

Plate II.



47. Frossard, Ed. **COLLECTION OF THE ENTIRE COLLECTION OF A.H. SALTMARSH, ESQ., HAVERHILL, MASS., COMPRISING ANCIENT, FOREIGN AND AMERICAN COINS, IN GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER, AMONG WHICH WILL BE FOUND THE RARE SYRACUSE DECADRACHM, A COMPLETE SERIES OF BELL THALERS, SINGLE, DOUBLE, TRIPLE, QUADRUPLE, QUINTUPLE, SEXTUPLE AND DECUPLE CROWNS OF BRUNSWICK. AN ORIGINAL U.S. 1804 DOLLAR, A COLLECTION OF 560 CHINESE COINS, LARGE LOTS OF U.S. CENTS, HALF CENTS AND COPPER COINS, ANTIQUITIES OF EGYPT AND ROME; PRE-HISTORIC AND INDIAN STONE IMPLEMENTS, CURIOSITIES, NUMISMATIC WORKS, PAPER MONEY, ETC.** New York: Geo. A. Leavitt & Co., April 13–14, 1892. 8vo, printed red paper covers. 56, (2) pages; 974 lots; 3 collotype plates.

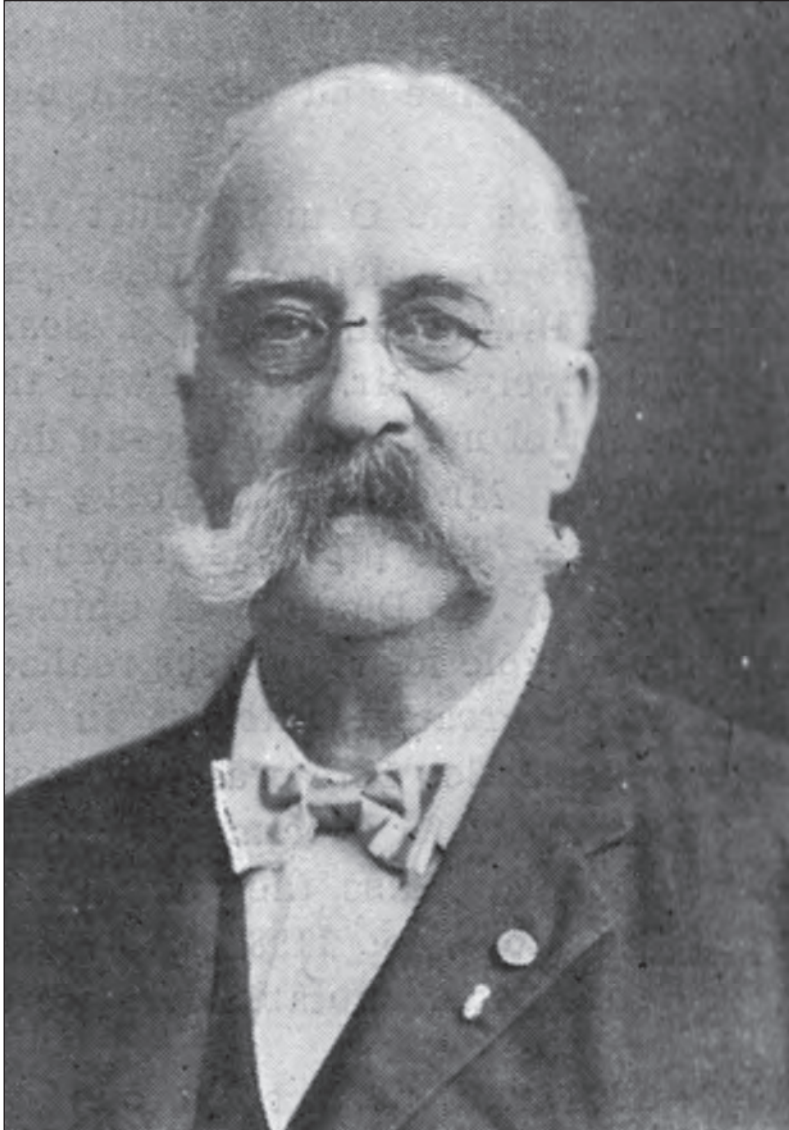
Only 50 copies of this catalogue were printed on thick paper with plates. The first plate depicts nine ancient silver coins surrounding two massive 10 thaler pieces of Brunswick-Luneburg. The most important is the Syracusan dekadrachm attributed to Kimon struck from a cracked obverse die that brought \$240 in H.P. Smith's 1883 sale of the Clement Ferguson collection (but which Saltmarsh bought for only \$101 in Woodward's September 1888 sale of the Klein collection); here the piece (lot 502 in the sale) brought \$97.50. Also shown are a tetradrachm of Aegina (lot 468 at \$5), a didrachm of Aspendus (lot 471 at \$3.25), a shield type tetradrachm of Antigonus II Gonatas (lot 515 at \$4), a tetradrachm of Demetrios II Nikator (lot 521 at \$4.35), and a cistophorus of Augustus (lot 554 at \$5.55), among others.

**References:** Adams 110 (rated B– overall, B for ancients). Davis 416.









John W. Haseltine, as depicted in the October–November 1908 issue of *The Numismatist*, official publication of the American Numismatic Association ([money.org](http://money.org)).

## JOHN W. HASELTINE

John W. Haseltine was among the foremost professional numismatists of the Philadelphia scene for the half century spanning the 1870s through the 1920s. Born in 1838, Haseltine tried his hand at a number of trades in his early years, including mining speculation and as a shoe wholesaler. Living in New Orleans at the outbreak of the rebellion, he quickly moved back to Pennsylvania and joined the Union forces in August 1861. Badly wounded three years later at the Second Battle of Deep Bottom, his service to the Union came to an end. He began his numismatic career as a partner with Ebenezer Locke Mason, another Civil War veteran, in 1869. Quickly going solo, he issued a variety of fixed price lists, some of which were so highly detailed in their descriptions that they also served as reference works.

Haseltine catalogued 90 auction sales, including the Mickley collection of large cents, the Sylvester S. Crosby collection of colonial coins and the Harold P. Newlin collection of half dimes. One of his sales, the *Catalogue of John W. Haseltine's Type Table of United States Dollars, Half Dollars and Quarters* (1881), quickly became a reference work on the subject. Its descriptions were so detailed and meticulous that three separate works were ultimately required to supersede it (Browning, Beistle, and Bolender) and it was not rendered entirely obsolete until 1950.

There is no question that Haseltine was at his best when cataloguing American material. Of his 90 auction catalogues, only 16 are rated for ancient coins, and most of those are frankly unimportant. The inclusion of only one of his sales in the present work, however, has more to do with Haseltine's apparent apathy (if not antipathy) toward the use of photographic illustrations in catalogues: the one catalogue listed below is the only catalogue Haseltine published with photographic plates. While this is a real loss for American numismatics, it must be admitted that the loss to ancient numismatics is probably minimal.

48. Haseltine, John W. **CATALOGUE OF A VERY LARGE AND VALUABLE COLLECTION OF GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER COINS AND MEDALS, COMPRISING THE CABINETS OF S.W. CHUBBUCK, OF UTICA, N.Y., AND OTHERS.** Philadelphia: Thomas Birch & Sons, February 25–28, 1873. 8vo, printed green paper covers. 127, (1) pages; 2896 lots; 5 mounted photographic plates.

Haseltine's only plated sale, which is a pity for Americanists but less tragic a loss for ancient specialists, who would rarely find offerings of interest. Despite the importance of the sale, neither Haseltine nor Attinelli have much to say about the collector. Samuel Winchester Chubbuck (1799–1875) was a manufacturer of scientific instruments and is listed in at least one Utica directory as a brass founder. While his mature career focused on the development of telegraphic instrumentation, his experience while a young man as a silversmith and goldsmith might easily have led to his interest in numismatics. The Chubbuck sale is one of the earliest to be offered with photographic plates, at this time still hand-mounted albumen prints. While the plates depict a wide variety of world coins, only one includes ancient coins. The fourth plate depicts lots 789, a silver stater of Siris (called here a hemistater of Lete), and 973, a Year Three shekel of the Jewish War. Of the latter, Haseltine notes that "it was obtained in Syria by a friend of Mr. Chubbuck, and he had refused several offers of \$100 for it," which is too bad because it sold in the sale for \$20. The catalogue was issued with or without plates; a deluxe plated edition was also issued, with the pages printed on rectos only.

**References:** Adams 10 (rated A overall, C for ancients). Attinelli 65. Clain-Stefanelli 10536. Davis 478.



921



942



920



915



973



789





B. Max Mehl

## B. MAX MEHL

B. Max Mehl was born in 1884 in Łódź, Poland (then part of Russia). Immigrating to the United States in 1895, he entered the coin trade as a young man, placing national advertisements before he was twenty years of age. He held his first auction in 1906, though with Mehl it must be noted that his auctions were all mail-bid sales. At first this was the only practical approach, as he operated from Fort Worth, Texas—which may as well have been in Fiji as far as the East Coast American coin trade was concerned. Even after becoming the most prominent coin dealer in the nation, however, attracting many of the largest and most valuable consignments, Mehl continued to rely on this sale method throughout his career.

If Mehl was a brilliant businessman—and he certainly was—his light as a numismatist burned less brightly. His catalogues are not consulted today because of the quality of his descriptions. Insights into numismatic history should be sought elsewhere, as should scholarly clarifications and revisions to accepted knowledge. On the relatively rare occasion Mehl tried to dig deeply into a topic—his fixed price catalogue of the large cent collection of Dr. George P. French, for example—the results were regrettable. Large cent specialist George H. Clapp called the French catalogue “a beautiful example of how not to write.”

Mehl's catalogues are significant because of the collections he handled. For tracking provenances and conducting research into the history of the hobby in the United States, they are of unquestionable importance. Only one of his sales, however, is awarded an A rating for ancient coins by Adams. Mehl was out of his element in this field, hence few of his catalogues are listed below. It must also be noted that Mehl had an unfortunate habit of using stock photos in some of his catalogues. For example, his 52nd catalogue (the Crichton collection) features an illustration of a large bronze of Vespasian. I believe this to be a stock image and have not listed it below (the same catalogue includes an illustration of an 1814 half eagle that is clearly far superior to the one described, so this seems a safe assumption). To the best of my knowledge, the coins illustrated in the catalogues below represent the actual coins offered in the catalogues.

49. Mehl, B. Max. CATALOG OF COINS, MEDALS AND PAPER MONEY OF UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES, PROPERTIES OF WORTHY E. EDWARDS, CARL BRUM, STERLING P. GROVES, G.L. FAUNCHER, FRANK E. BLOOMFIELD AND THE COLLECTION OF CONFEDERATE BOOKS, NEWSPAPERS AND CURIOS THE PROPERTY OF DR. H.C. POPE, TOGETHER WITH OTHER CONSIGNMENTS OF RARE AND CHOICE COINS INCLUDING AN ALMOST PROOF 1799 DOLLAR, BEAUTIFUL EARLY CENTS. RARE PIONEER GOLD, ETC., ETC. Fort Worth, June 22, 1907. 8vo, printed tan card covers. (2), 24 pages; 678 lots; 1 halftone plate.

Mehl's first illustrated auction catalogue. The very low-quality halftone plate includes an illustration of the reverse of a Year Three shekel of the Jewish War (lot 678).

**References:** Adams 4 (rated B– overall, unrated for ancients).





50. Mehl, B. Max. CATALOGUE OF THE MAGNIFICENT COLLECTION OF GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER COINS OF THE UNITED STATES FORMED BY MR. CHARLES H. CONOVER, CHICAGO. SILVER DOLLARS, 1794, 1836, 1838, 1839, 1851, 1852, 1858. HALF DOLLARS 1794, 1796, 1797. QUARTER DOLLARS, 1796 PROOF, 1823, 1827. DIMES, 1804. MAGNIFICENT CENTS, COMPLETE SET HALF CENTS WITH PROOFS OF 1831, 1836, 1840, 1841, 1842, 1843, 1844, 1845, 1846, 1847, 1848 AND 1852. WITH HALF DIME OF 1802. PARTICULARLY RICH IN GOLD, 1795 TO 1913. GOLD PROOF SETS; HALF EAGLES OF 1795 HERALDIC EAGLE, 1797, 1821, 1833. QUARTER EAGLES WITH 1845 O., 1854 D., ETC. \$3.00 GOLD, 1873 PROOF. GOLD DOLLAR, 1863, 1864, 1865, 1875, AND 1861 D. MINT. PIONEER GOLD, MORMON \$20.00. BECHTLER \$2.50, 75 G. CASTORLAND HALF DOLLAR AND BERMUDA PENNY IN GOLD. WITH A ROUND \$50.00 GOLD PIECE. Fort Worth, May 6, 1914. 4to, gilt-printed tan card covers. 52 pages; 1251 lots; 6 halftone plates.

A notable collection, though almost entirely focused on United States coinage. Conover (1847–1915) was president of the Chicago hardware firm of Hibbard, Spencer, Bartlett & Company, and was active in the Illinois State Historical Society. Plate 6 of the catalogue depicts lot 982, a tetradrachm of Gela that brought \$7.25.

**References:** Adams 29 (rated A overall, C+ for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 12453.

## PLATE VI



1237



1226



1237



1245



1244



841



1227



843



1235



849



1241



982

CHARLES H. CONOVER COLLECTION  
 CATALOGUED BY  
 B. MAX MEHL  
 FORT WORTH, TEXAS

51. Mehl, B. Max. CATALOGUE OF THE FINE COLLECTION OF UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN COINS OF MAJOR RICHARD LAMBERT, NEW ORLEANS, TOGETHER WITH THE DUPLICATE COLLECTION OF MR. WALDO NEWCOMER, BALTIMORE. GOLD; \$4.00; \$3.00 OF 1873, 1876 AND 1877. COMPLETE COLLECTION OF GOLD DOLLARS, 1863, 1864, 1865, 1875, ETC., WITH D. MINTS OF 1855, 1856, AND 1861, AND 1870 S. SILVER DOLLARS, 1836, 1839, 1851 AND 1858. FINE CENTS; A COLLECTION OF “WILD MAN” CROWNS, “GUN MONEY,” RARE ENGLISH CROWNS, FRACTIONAL CURRENCY, NUMISMATIC BOOKS, ETC. Fort Worth, June 30, 1914 [postponed to July 14, 1914]. 4to, printed tan card covers. 51, (1) pages; 1373 lots; halftone portrait of Lambert; 3 halftone plates.

Plate 1 depicts both sides of a Year Three shekel of the Jewish War (lot 113 at \$25.25), which would appear to be the same coin as that plated in Mehl’s Sale 4. Much of Lambert’s collection had been sold earlier in an S.H. Chapman sale of October 21–22, 1910.

**References:** Adams 30 (rated B overall, unrated for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 9155.







52. Mehl, B. Max. LXIV CATALOGUE OF THE CHOICE AND VALUABLE COLLECTION OF UNITED STATES AND PIONEER GOLD COINS FORMED BY THE LATE H.E. RAWSON OF CHICAGO AND BOSTON, COLLECTION OF BEAUTIFUL ANCIENT GREEK GOLD AND SILVER COINS OF DR. A. DE YOANNA, BROOKLYN, N.Y., AND THE EXTENSIVE COLLECTION OF FOREIGN SILVER COINS FORMED BY THE LATE DAVID STRASSER, NEW YORK CITY. December 12, 1922. 8vo, printed mottled brown card covers. 104 pages; 1751 lots; halftone text illustration.

The Yoanna collection featured a Syracusan dekadrachm of Euainetos that, assuming the photo is the actual coin under offer, is neither listed nor depicted in Gallatin. The coin (lot 529) sold for \$400, according to the prices realized list. It is the only coin illustrated in the catalogue.

**References:** Adams 64 (rated A overall, B+ for ancients).



COLLECTION OF  
RARE AND BEAUTIFUL  
ANCIENT GREEK GOLD *and* SILVER COINS  
OF  
Dr. A. de YOANNA  
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

---

*Comprising the finest selection of these wonderful Coins  
I have ever before offered.*

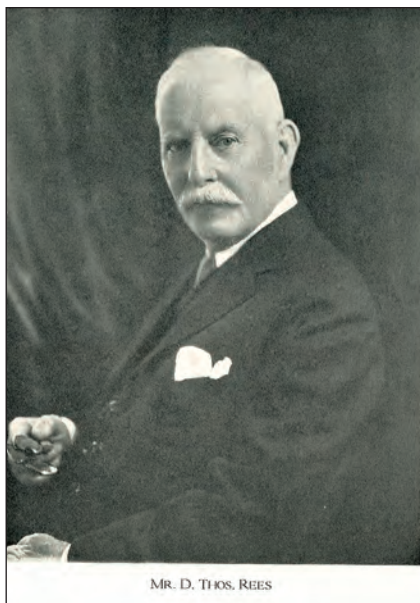
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INCLUDING A CHOICE SPECIMEN OF THE  
World Famed DEKADRACHM *of* SYRACUSE

*with fifteen other remarkable Silver Coins of Syracuse and a number of other rarities.*

*Choice and Rare Greek Gold Coins of Egypt, including two varieties of the Arsinoe Octodrachms; Gold Staters of Carthage, Cyrene, Macedonia, Syracuse, Syria and Thrace.*

*Together with an interesting selection of Papal Gold and Silver Coins.*



53. Mehl, B. Max. LXXVI CATALOG OF THE GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER COINS OF ENGLAND, ITS COLONIES AND POSSESSIONS; ANCIENT GREEK AND ROMAN COINS, ONE OF THE MOST EXTENSIVE COLLECTIONS EVER OFFERED IN THIS COUNTRY; CUT AND COUNTERSTAMPED COINS OF THE WEST INDIES; AND A FINE REPRESENTATIVE COLLECTION OF UNITED STATES AND TERRITORIAL COINS INCLUDING SOME VERY RARE. THIS COLLECTION WAS FORMED AND IS THE PROPERTY OF MR. D. THOS. REES, NEW ORLEANS. Fort Worth, March 27, 1928. 4to, printed tan card covers. 109, (1) pages; 1411 lots; halftone portrait of Rees; 4 halftone plates of coins.

A solid sale, with lots 814–1219 consisting of ancient and Byzantine coins, including some notable pieces. Lots 814–832 are Greek gold and electrum coins, lots 988–1026 are Roman gold coins, and lots 1041–1139 are sestertii. Plate 3 depicts lots 824 and 825: a gold mnaieion (oktadrachm) of Arsinoe II Philadelphos and another depicting Ptolemy II Philadelphos with Arsinoe II (Ptolemy I and Berenike I on the reverse), which sold for \$92 and \$65, respectively. Plate 4 depicts both sides of lots 921 (a tetradrachm of Perseus at \$26) and 946 (a tetradrachm of Philistes, also at \$26), along with one side each of 15 coins including an aureus of Vespasian (lot 998 at \$33.50), an aureus of Marcus Aurelius (lot 1012 at \$32), and a fine Judaea Capta sestertius of Titus (lot 1063 at \$22).

**References:** Adams 76 (rated A overall, A for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 12638.

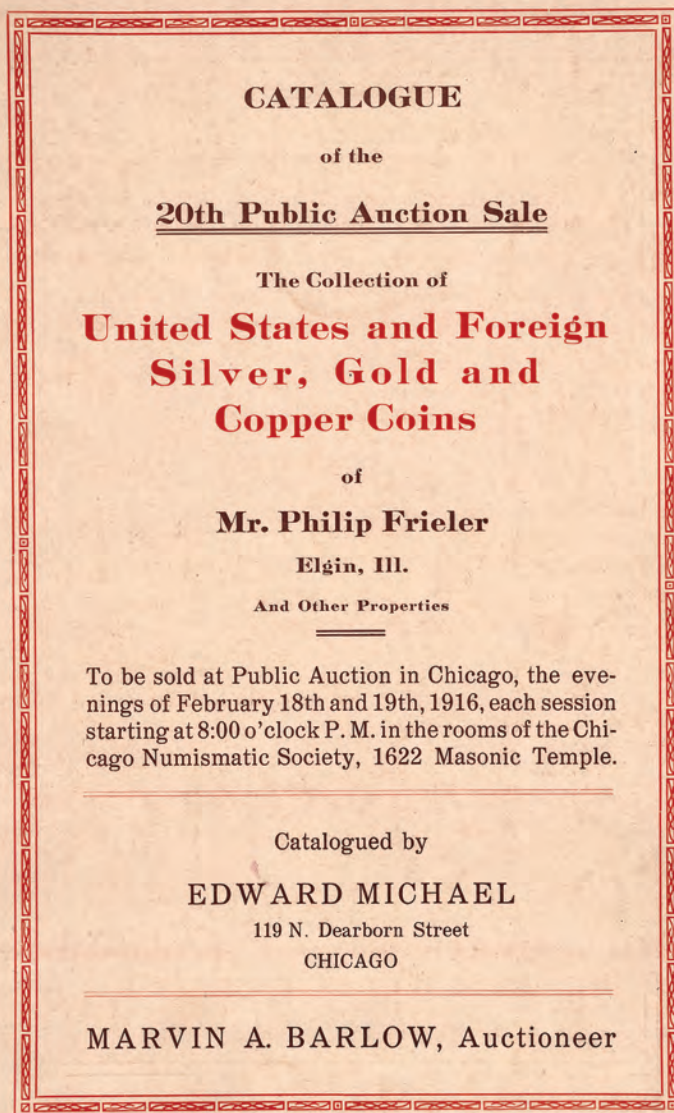
*Photos courtesy of the American Numismatic Society*

## PLATE 4



THE D. THOS. REES COLLECTION  
 Catalogued by B. MAX MEHL





## **FRED MICHAEL & BRO. / EDWARD MICHAEL**

Brothers Fred (1874–1921) and Edward (1883–1931) Michael ran a Chicago coin firm that conducted two dozen auctions during the 1910s. The business initially operated as Fred Michael & Bro. Beginning with its seventh sale (October 18, 1913), the company's name became Edward Michael. I have been able to learn little about the pair. Fred Michael was Charter Member No. 3 of the Chicago Coin Club, but Edward Michael does not appear on the same roster.

Ancient coins were not the focus of the company, regardless of which brother's name was on the title page. Most of the catalogues issued were unillustrated; of those that included illustrations (halftone plates of generally indifferent quality), only two depict any ancient coins—with the earlier of the two depicting only one of them.

54. Michael & Bro., Fred. **CATALOGUE OF THE COLLECTION OF UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN COINS OF THE LATE FREDERICK L. FAKE**. Chicago: Marvin A. Barlow, September 27–28, 1912. 8vo, printed yellow card covers. 39, (1) pages; 1456 lots; 3 halftone plates.

One of only a few Michael catalogues to feature illustrations. The sale is not particularly notable for ancient coins, but does include a Year Three shekel (lot 1336 at \$26), which is depicted on Plate 3.

**References:** Gengerke 5 (not recorded as having illustrations).

PLATE NO. 3



983



981



743



748

1095



1336

1353



745

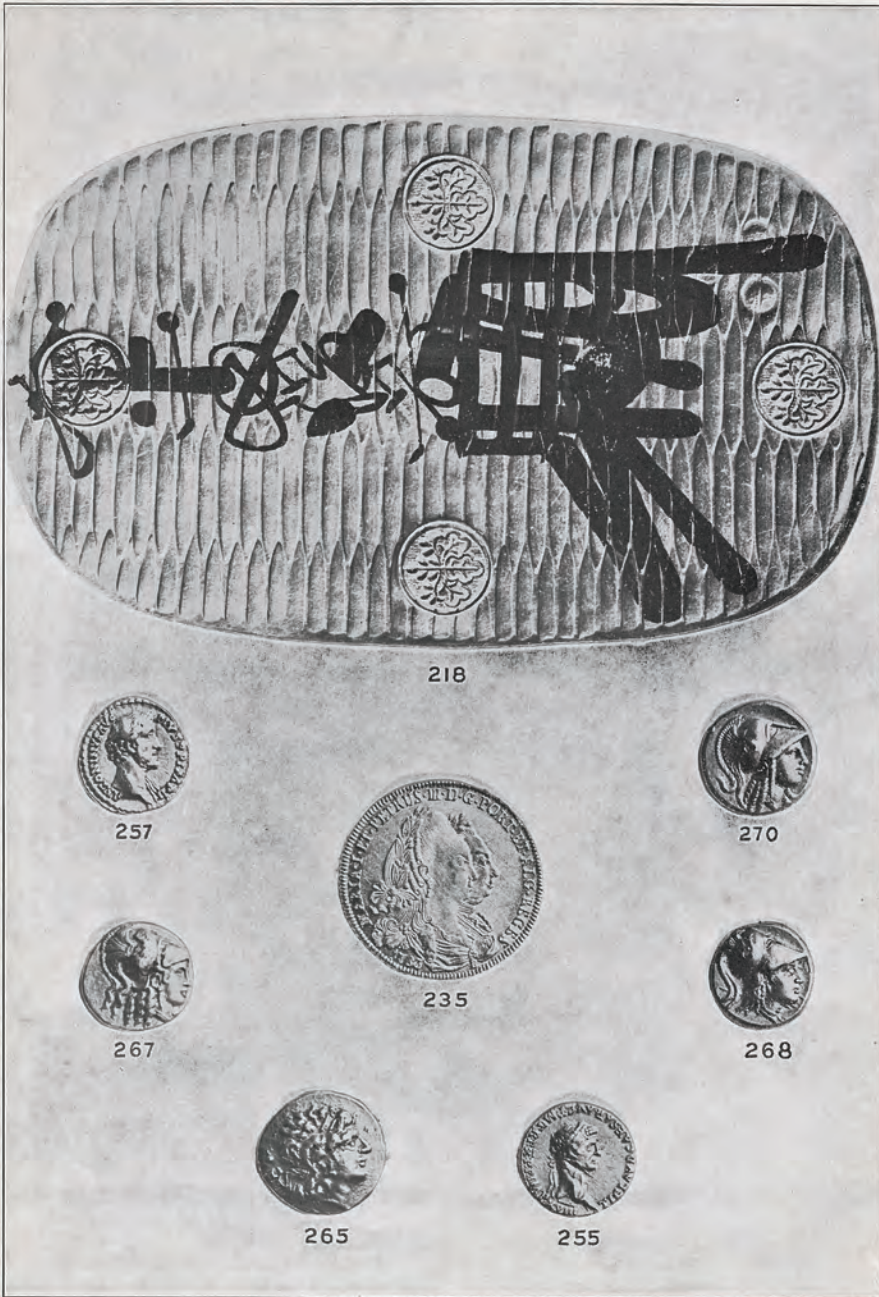


55. Michael, Edward. **CATALOGUE OF THE 20TH PUBLIC AUCTION SALE. THE COLLECTION OF UNITED STATES AND FOREIGN SILVER, GOLD AND COPPER COINS OF MR. PHILIP FRIELER, ELGIN, ILL., AND OTHER PROPERTIES.** Chicago: Marvin A. Barlow, February 18–19, 1916. 8vo, printed off-white card covers. 30 pages; 1224 lots; 2 half-tone plates.

Six ancient gold coins are depicted (obverses only) on the second plate: aurei of Claudius and Antoninus Pius (lots 255 and 257, at \$16.25 and \$15, respectively), and staters of Lysimachus (lot 265 at \$18.50), Alexander the Great (lots 267 and 268, at \$28 and \$32, respectively), and Philip III (lot 270 at \$21).

**References:** Gengerke 20.

PLATE II





David Proskey, one of the principals of the New York Coin & Stamp Company, as depicted in the October 1928 issue of *The Numismatist*, official publication of the American Numismatic Association ([money.org](http://money.org)).



Robert Coulton Davis, whose magnificent collection formed the basis of the New York Coin & Stamp Company's first blockbuster sale. *Photo courtesy of the American Numismatic Society*

## NEW YORK COIN & STAMP COMPANY

The New York Coin & Stamp Company was a partnership formed in 1888 by two experienced numismatists, David Proskey and Harlan Page Smith. It lasted until the latter's death in 1902, after which Proskey continued on his own for several years. David U. Proskey (1853–1928) was a fixture in the numismatic community for over half a century, issuing his first catalogue in 1876. He worked in association with John W. Scott for about a decade, issued four more independent sales, then went into business with Smith. Although Proskey remained active into the 1920s, sadly he committed little of his apparently vast knowledge to paper. H.P. Smith (1839–1902) began his numismatic career with a short-lived partnership with H.G. Sampson that brought about little more than four auction catalogues. Smith then conducted 21 auctions under his own name before establishing the New York Coin & Stamp Company with Proskey. His outstanding personal collection was sold by the Chapman Brothers in 1906.

Twenty-four auction sales were conducted under the New York Coin & Stamp Company banner between 1888 and 1908. The most important of these sales were both conducted in 1890, offering the collections of R. Coulton Davis and Lorin G. Parmelee. While the Parmelee sale is ultimately the more notable of the two, it comprises only American coins. Two other significant sales, the 1891 Francis Doughty sale and the 1892 Woodside & Oliver sale, are a bit more diverse in their offerings but include little or nothing in the way of ancient coins. Only two New York Coin & Stamp Company sales are rated B for ancient content by John W. Adams, with none rated higher, and only one of these is plated: the 1890 Davis sale listed below.



56. New York Coin & Stamp Co. **CATALOGUE OF THE COLLECTION OF COINS, MEDALS, TOKENS AND CURRENCY FORMERLY OWNED BY THE LATE ROBERT COULTON DAVIS, PH.G., OF PHILADELPHIA, PA.** New York: Bangs & Co., January 20–24, 1890. 4to, black cloth-covered paper covers, gilt. (2), ii, (3)–128 pages; 2914 lots; 4 tinted collotype plates.

An outstanding catalogue, mostly devoted to American coins. The first plate features 28 Roman and Byzantine gold coins along with later gold pieces, including a Brasher doubloon. Among the ancient coins are aurei of Augustus (lot 1554 at \$20), Vespasian (Judaea reverse, lot 1561 at \$25.50), Titus (lot 1562 at \$25.50), Antoninus Pius (lot 1568 at \$19) and Constantine the Great (lot 1577 at \$19). The tinted plate is of very high quality, which is not always the case with the firm's catalogues.

**References:** Adams 3 (rated A+ overall, B for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 12455. Davis 783.





Wayte Raymond, as depicted in the February 1957 issue of *The Numismatist*, official publication of the American Numismatic Association ([money.org](http://money.org)).

## WAYTE RAYMOND

B. Max Mehl may have done more than anyone to generate popular excitement about coins in the United States during the first half of the twentieth century, but Wayte Raymond (1886–1956) probably did the most to instill a genuine appreciation for numismatics among a more widespread and diverse audience during that period. He published a comprehensive series of collecting guides, culminating in the *Standard Catalogue of United States Coins*, which ran for eighteen editions between 1934 and 1957, and the *Coins of the World* volumes. His *Coin Collectors Journal* was published from 1934 to 1958, and introduced thousands of readers to the full spectrum of numismatic study. He popularized the National Coin albums, giving collectors a practical and reasonably priced way to store and display their collections. Finally, he was occupied as a coin dealer and cataloguer through no fewer than four different firms: his own, the United States Coin Company, the Scott Stamp & Coin Company, and (with J.G. Macallister) J.C. Morgenthau & Company. He served both the novice and the connoisseur with a skill rarely encountered.

While the Scott Stamp & Coin Company did not conduct auctions under Raymond, his other three businesses made them one of their primary activities. Between 1908 and 1950, we find no fewer than 165 Wayte Raymond, U.S. Coin Company, and J.C. Morgenthau sales (not counting the non-numismatic Morgenthau sales with which Raymond was uninvolved). Among these are some of the most important of the period, including material from the collections of Malcolm Jackson, Foster Lardner, H.O. Granberg, W.W.C. Wilson, Virgil Brand, Howard Newcomb, Charles Senter, Waldo Newcomer and many other well-known names.

Ancient coins were a sideline for Raymond, albeit a substantive one. He promoted the collecting of them and published several monographs on the subject, but in the end they made up only a small part of his business. None of the few plated United States Coin Company catalogues depict ancient coins. A total of twenty Wayte Raymond and J.C. Morgenthau catalogues include photographically printed illustrations of ancient coins, though it must be said that all of these are halftones. While the quality of the plates may not be equal to some of the other catalogues listed in this bibliography, the Raymond series have the advantage of ubiquity—with few exceptions, his catalogues are readily available and can easily be added to one's library.



57. Raymond, Wayte. **IMPORTANT COLLECTION OF GOLD COINS FORMED BY THE LATE GIOVANNI P. MOROSINI. CHIEFLY ITALIAN AND OTHER EUROPEAN RARITIES, BELONGING TO THE ESTATE OF THE LATE GIULIA P. MOROSINI.** New York: American Art Association, October 10, 1932. 8vo, printed tan card covers. (8), 107, (3) pages; 374 lots; halftone illustrations throughout and on one large folding plate included in the pagination.

An extraordinary collection that, being sold during the depression, unfortunately realized poor results. The sale featured only thirty or so ancient coins, including a gold mnaieion (oktadrachm) of Arsinoe II Philadelphos (lot 9 at \$65) and a somewhat poorly preserved Syracusan dekadrachm of Euainetos (lot 338 at \$47.50).

**References:** Adams 15 (rated A– overall, unrated for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 8009.



[NUMBER 9]

Marx \$ 65.00

9. EGYPT. Ptolemy II, B.C. 285-246; octadrachm. Veiled head of Arsinoe II *r.*, large K behind; R: double cornucopiae. Mint state.

### SILVER COINS

### ANCIENT GREECE



[NUMBER 338]

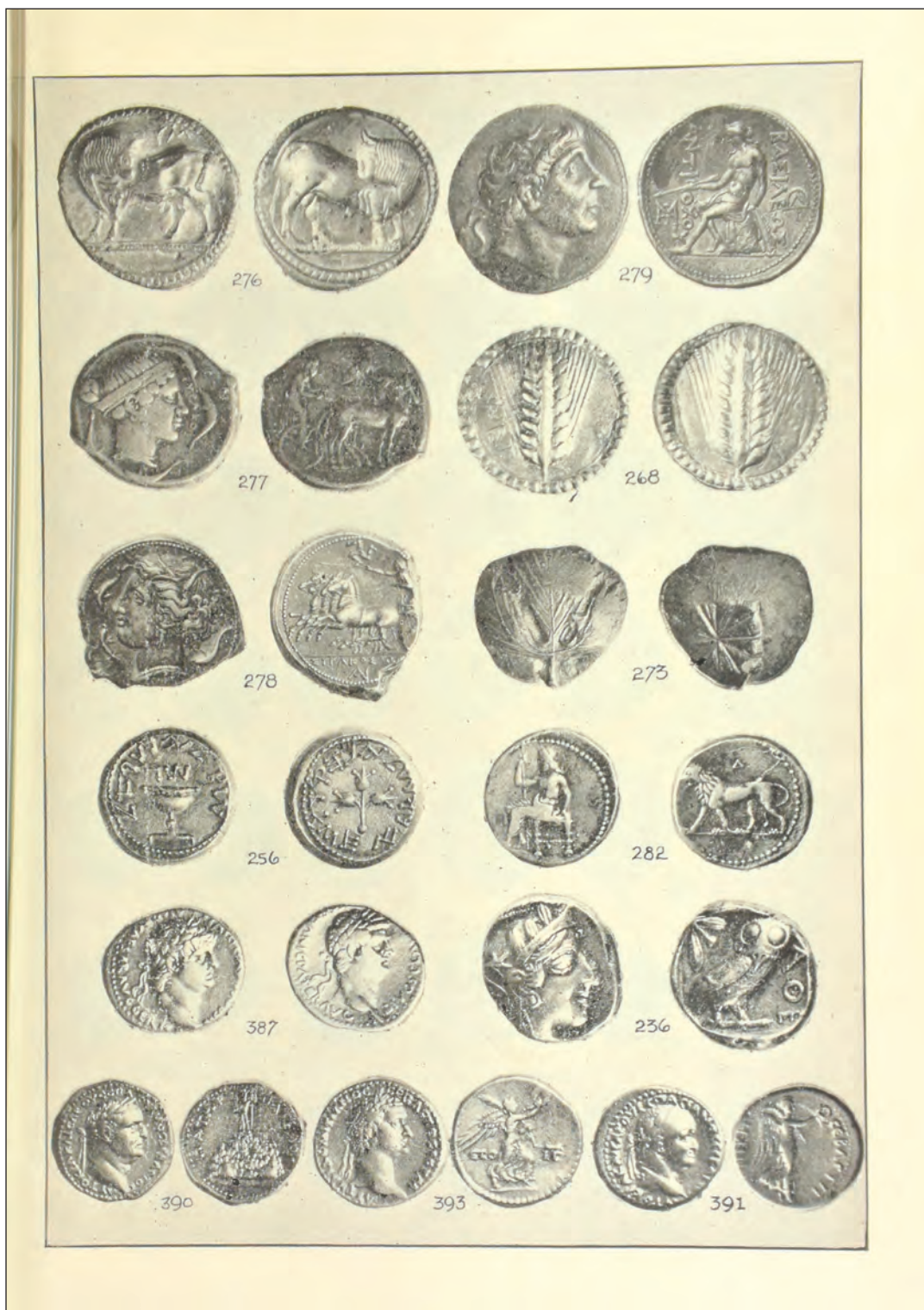
47.50

338. SYRACUSE, B.C. 413-357. Dekadrachm by the famous artist Euacnetos. Head of Persephone *l.*, traces of artist's signature below; R: victorious quadriga. Obverse fine, but reverse rather poor.

58. Raymond, Wayte. **UNITED STATES, FOREIGN AND ANCIENT COINS**. New York, September 20, 1937. 8vo, printed tan card covers. 30, (2) pages; 918 lots; 2 halftone plates included in the pagination.

A mail-bid sale. The two plates are entirely devoted to ancient coins, with highlights including a Year 3 shekel of the Jewish War (lot 256 at \$51), an exceptional archaic stater of Metapontum (lot 268 at \$20), and a superb tetradrachm of Antiochus I Soter (lot 279 at \$26), all of which are depicted on the first plate.

**References:** Adams 17 (rated C overall, C+ for ancients). Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.





59. Raymond, Wayte. **UNITED STATES, FOREIGN AND ANCIENT COINS**. New York, December 14, 1937. 8vo, printed tan card covers. 30, (2) pages; 800 lots; 3 halftone plates included in the pagination.

A mail-bid sale. Two of the three plates are entirely devoted to ancient Greek silver coins. Among them, highlights include an archaic Athenian tetradrachm (lot 489 at \$15.75), a Syracusan tetradrachm of the time of Gelon (lot 547 at \$16.25), and a Ptolemaic tetradrachm of Alexander III with the reverse of Athena Promachos (lot 514 at \$11.75).

**References:** Adams 19 (rated C+ overall, C+ for ancients). Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.

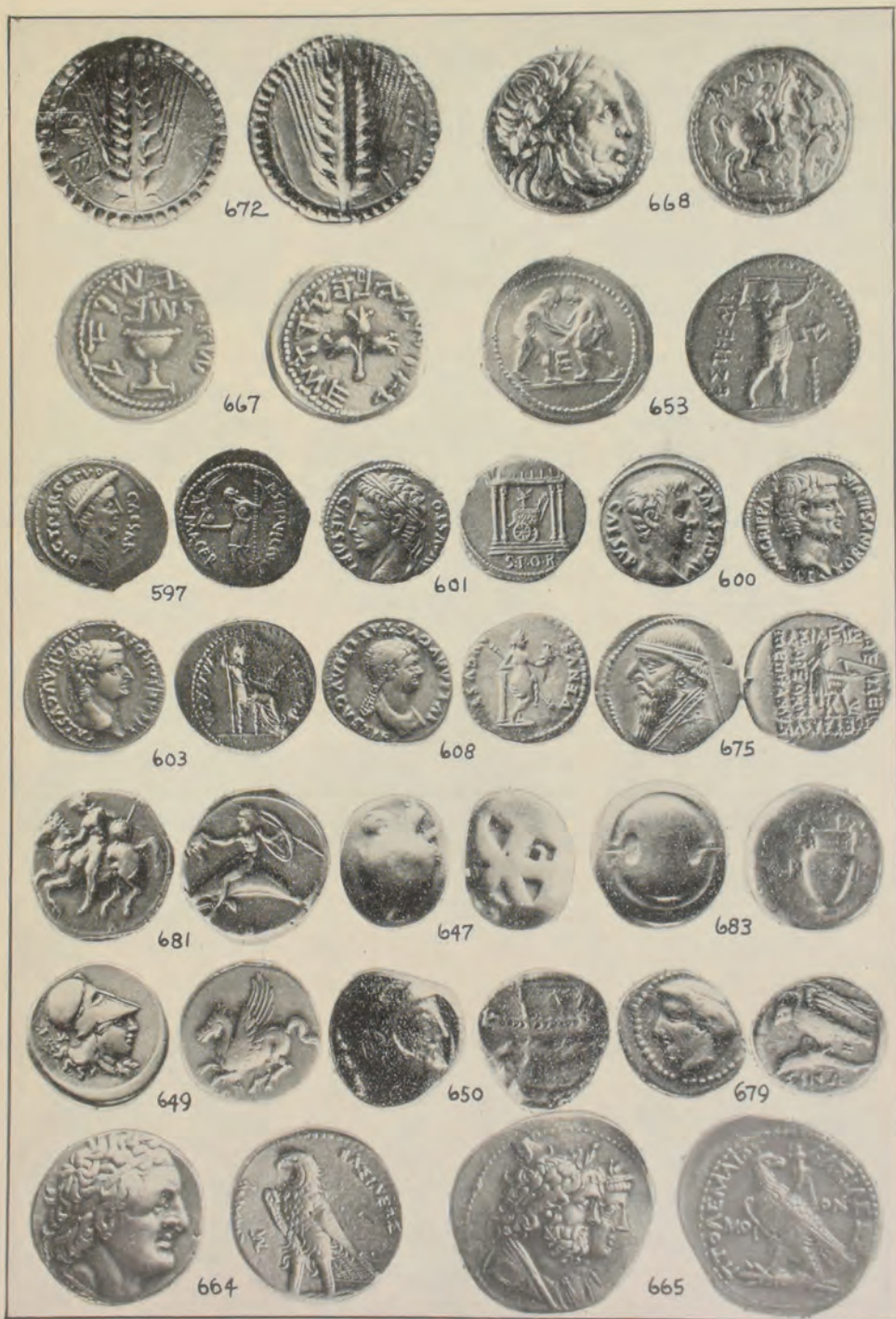


**60.** Raymond, Wayte. **UNITED STATES, FOREIGN AND ANCIENT COINS, INCLUDING A SPLENDID COLLECTION OF SILVER DOLLAR-SIZE COINS.** New York, July 6, 1938. 8vo, printed tan card covers. (2), 30 pages; 715 lots; 2 halftone plates included in the pagination.

A mail-bid sale. One of the two plates is entirely devoted to ancient Greek and Roman silver coins. Highlights include a denarius of Augustus with Agrippa (lot 600 at \$20.50), a tetradrachm of Ptolemy IV Philopator showing the jugate heads of Sarapis and Isis (lot 665 at \$25), and a Year 2 shekel of the Jewish War (lot 667 at \$55). Not listed in Gengerke as being illustrated.

**References:** Adams 23 (rated C overall, unrated for ancients).



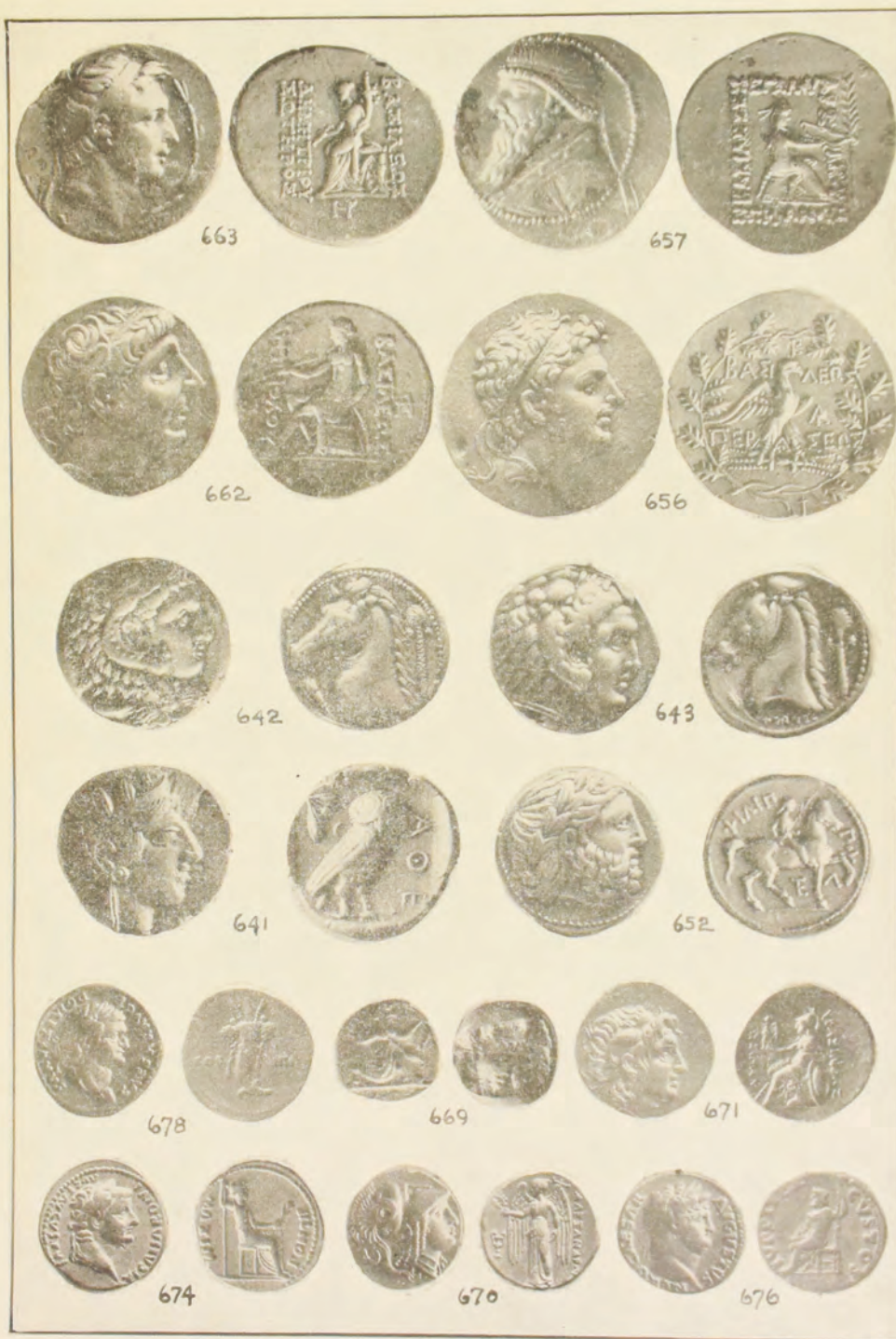




61. Raymond, Wayte. **UNITED STATES, FOREIGN AND ANCIENT COINS, GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER INCLUDING A FINE SERIES OF U.S. SILVER COINS.** New York, August 16, 1938. 8vo, printed tan card covers. 25, (3) pages; 745 lots; 1 halftone plate included in the pagination.

A mail-bid sale. The sole plate is entirely devoted to ancient coins, including a gold daric (lot 669 at \$20.25), a Macedonian stater of Alexander III (lot 670 at \$25.50), and a Thracian stater of Lysimachus of the Alexander/Athena Nikephoros type (lot 671 at \$30.25).

**References:** Adams 24 (rated C+ overall, C+ for ancients).



62. Raymond, Wayte. **FOREIGN AND ANCIENT COINS INCLUDING A SPLENDID COLLECTION OF GREEK AND ROMAN COINS, FOREIGN CROWNS, ENGLISH SILVER AND COPPER.** New York, December 19, 1938. Crown 4to, printed tan card covers. 46, (2) pages; 805 lots; 8 halftone plates included in the pagination.

A mail-bid sale. Over 200 lots of ancient coins are listed, many of which are depicted on six of the sale's eight plates. Among the highlights are a Thracian stater of Lysimachus of the Alexander/Athena Nikephoros type (lot 10 at \$67.50, being a superior specimen to the piece offered in Raymond's previous sale), an archaic tetradrachm of Akanthos (lot 11 at \$85), a splendid tetradrachm of Perseus (lot 44 at \$41), an aureus of L. Cestius and C. Norbanus (lot 81 at \$61), a denarius of Mark Antony and Cleopatra (lot 125 at \$42), and a denarius of Antonia Minor as Augusta (lot 130 at \$42.50). Not listed in Gengerke as being illustrated.

**References:** Adams 27 (rated C+ overall, C+ for ancients). Spring 559.

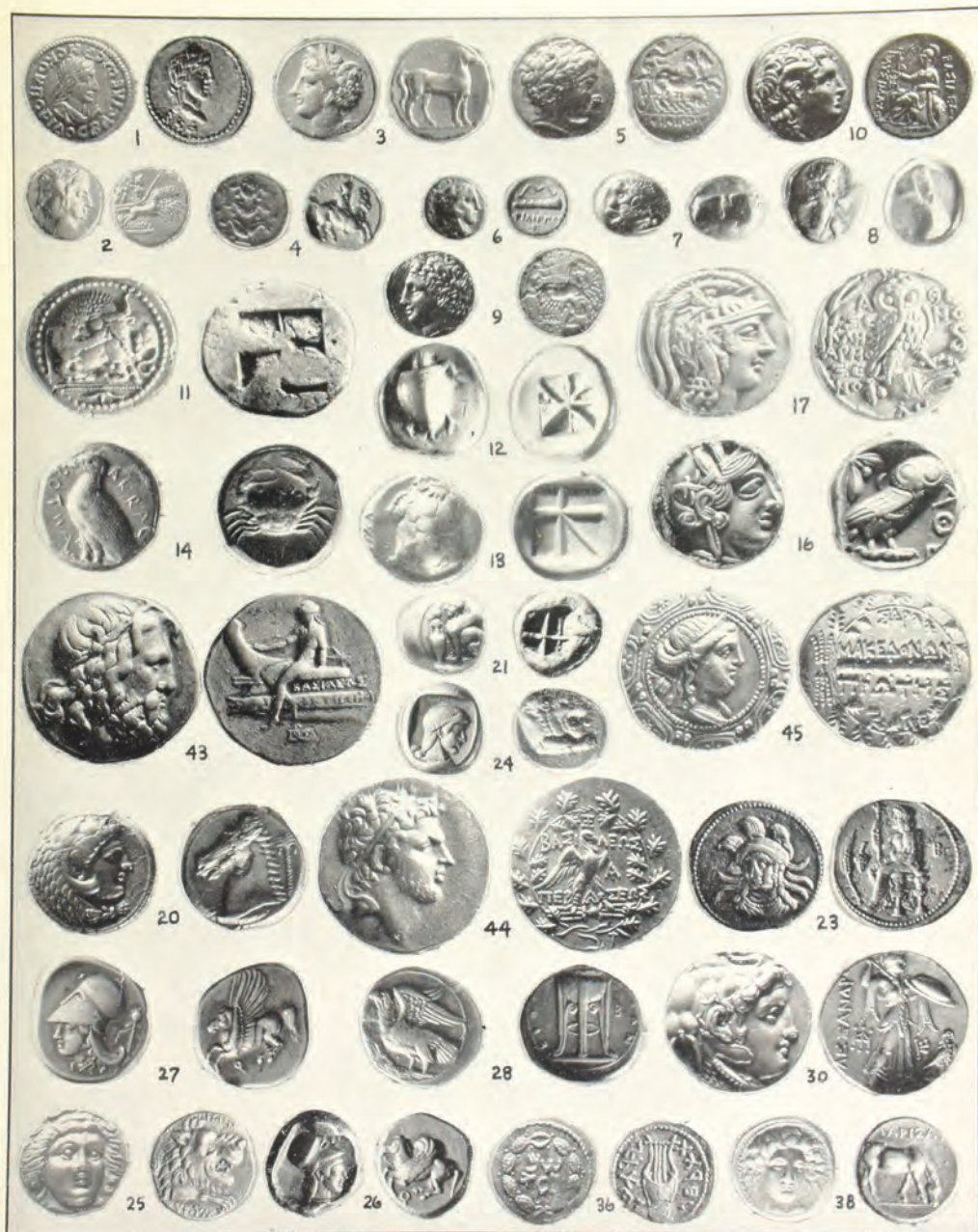


PLATE I



63. Raymond, Wayte. **UNITED STATES, FOREIGN AND ANCIENT GOLD AND SILVER COINS.** New York, January 31, 1939. Crown 4to, printed tan card covers. 25, (3) pages; 857 lots; 7 halftone plates included in the pagination.

A mail-bid sale. Over 200 lots of ancient coins are listed, many of which are depicted on five of the sale's seven plates. The first plate is entirely devoted to Greek and Roman gold coins, including an anonymous Romano-Campanian half stater (lot 103 at \$83.50), a tetradrachm of Ptolemy II Philadelphos with Arsinoe II (lot 104 at \$85), and a rare aureus of Tacitus (lot 126 at \$65). The sale also featured a tetradrachm of Demetrios Poliorketes (lot 238 at \$65) and a superb tetradrachm of Mithradates VI (lot 249 at \$58.25). Not listed in Gengerke as being illustrated.

**References:** Adams 28 (rated C+ overall, B– for ancients). Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.



PLATE I

64. Raymond, Wayte. **RARE GOLD AND SILVER COINS INCLUDING SPLENDID SERIES OF MEXICO FROM THE PERIOD CHARLES AND JOANNA, FOREIGN DOLLARS AND MULTIPLES, RARE COINS OF THE ROMAN REPUBLIC, UNITED STATES PRIVATE GOLD ISSUES, RARE COLONIAL PAPER MONEY.** New York, March 21, 1939. Crown 4to, printed tan card covers. 26, (2) pages; 773 lots; 8 halftone plates included in the pagination.

A mail-bid sale. Two of the eight plates are entirely devoted to the sale's notable offering of Roman Republican coins (lots 419 through 499). Indeed, these two plates depict every coin in this section of the sale, making it an unusually significant catalogue. Highlights include: an aureus of L. Mussidius Longus (lot 419 at \$53), an aureus of C. Vibius Varus (lot 420 at \$60), a denarius of Q. Atius Labienus Parthicus (lot 438 at \$62.50), a denarius of L. Pinarius Scarpus (lot 451 at \$62.50), and the sale's highlight, an EID MAR denarius of Marcus Junius Brutus (lot 467 at \$115). Not listed in Gengerke as being illustrated.

**References:** Adams 29 (rated B– overall, unrated for ancients). Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.



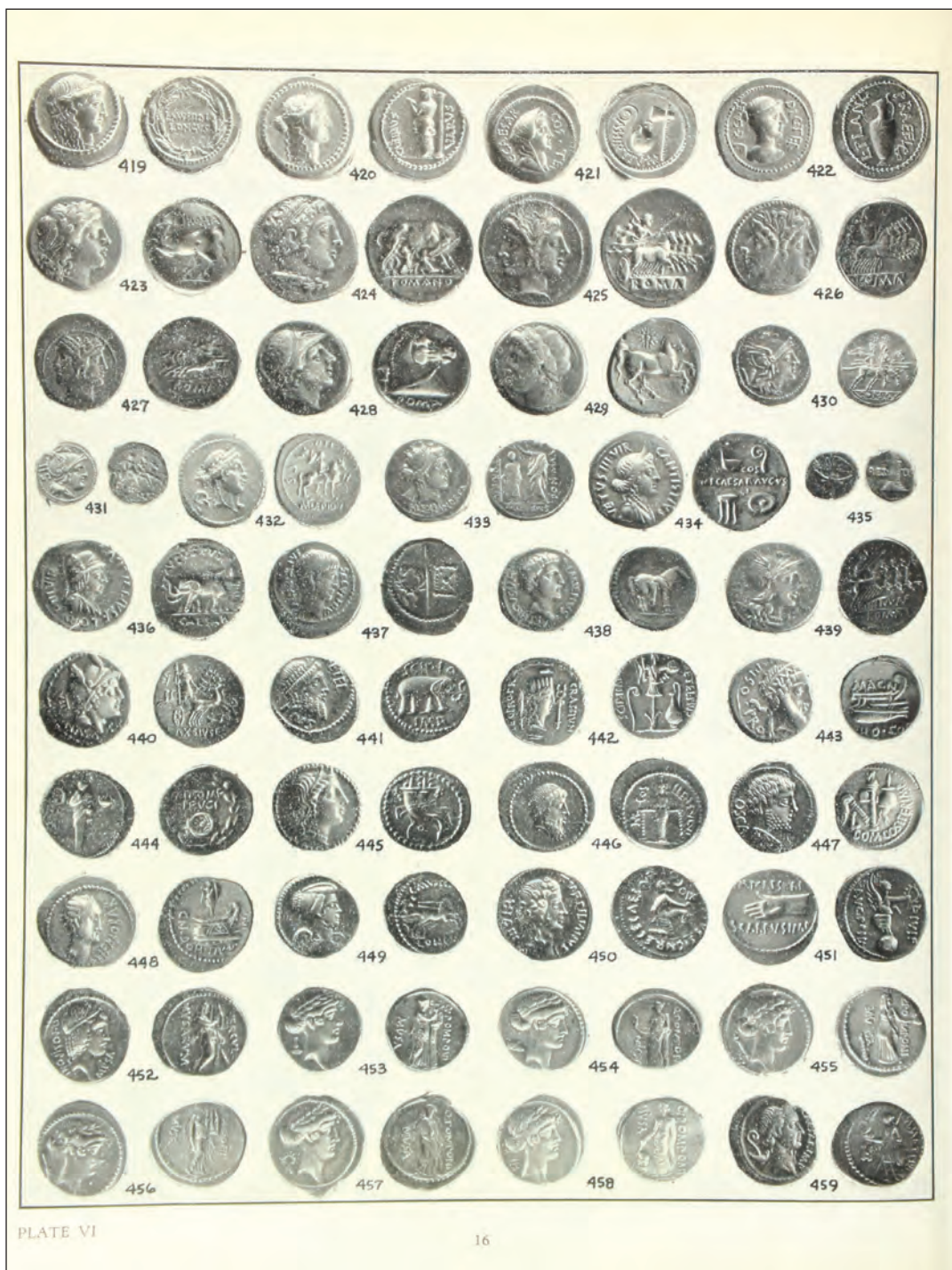


PLATE VI



65. Raymond, Wayte. **RARE GOLD AND SILVER COINS INCLUDING SPLENDID SERIES OF ANCIENT SILVER AND BRONZE, FOREIGN CROWNS, RARE CANADIAN COINS, ODD AND CURIOUS COINS AND UNITED STATES GOLD AND SILVER.** New York, April 25, 1939. Crown 4to, printed tan card covers. 30, (2) pages; 1065 lots; 6 halftone plates included in the pagination.

A mail-bid sale. Two of the six plates are entirely devoted to ancient coins, nearly all of them Greek silver coins (with three Roman bronzes as well). Highlights include a Syracusan tetradrachm of the time of Gelon (lot 51 at \$30), a later Syracusan tetradrachm (lot 56 at \$38.25), and a Thracian tetradrachm of Lysimachus with the defied head of Alexander (lot 72 at \$37). Not listed in Gengerke as being illustrated.

**References:** Adams 30 (rated B– overall, C+ for ancients). Spring 560.

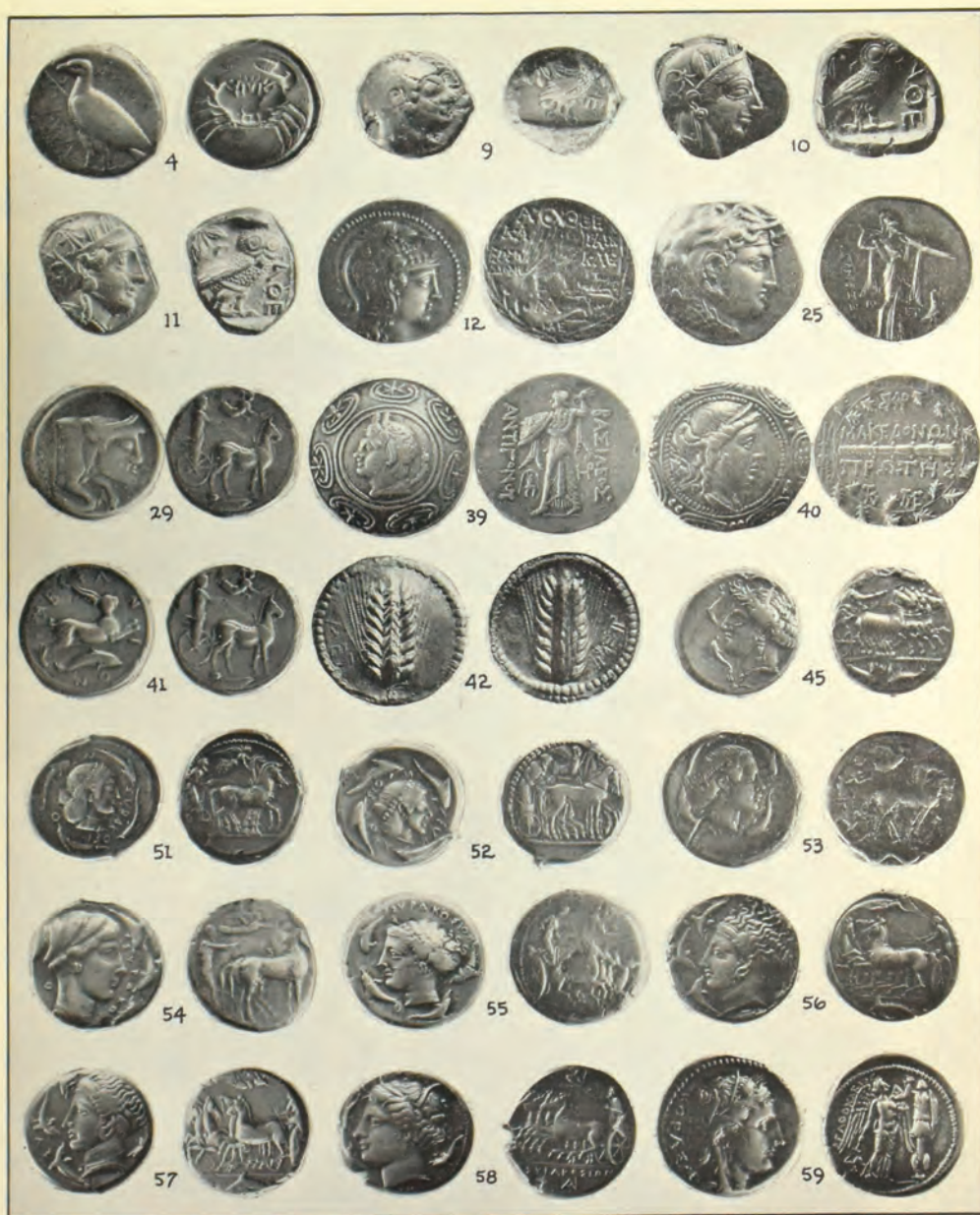


PLATE I

66. Raymond, Wayte. **RARE GOLD AND SILVER COINS INCLUDING SPLENDID SERIES OF ANCIENT SILVER, FOREIGN CROWNS AND UNITED STATES SILVER.** New York, June 20, 1939. Crown 4to, printed tan card covers. 18, (2) pages; 595 lots; 1 halftone plate included in the pagination.

A mail-bid sale. Half of the sole plate is devoted to Roman gold coins, with both sides of twenty pieces being depicted. Among them are aurei of Tiberius (with the Divus Augustus reverse, lot 1 at \$43.25), Hadrian (lot 8 at \$39.50), Tacitus (a rare Romae Aeternae variety, lot 12 at \$53), and Constantius Chlorus (a superb piece, lot 15 at \$57.50). Not listed in Gengerke as being illustrated.

**References:** Adams 32 (rated C overall, C+ for ancients).





## WAYTE RAYMOND AND J.G. MACALLISTER (FOR J.C. MORGENTHAU)

67. Raymond, Wayte, and J.G. Macallister [J.C. Morgenthau]. **FOREIGN AND ANCIENT GOLD AND SILVER COINS, UNITED STATES HALF DOLLARS, THE COLLECTION OF THE LATE WILLIAM S. FURST, PHILADELPHIA, PA. SOLD BY ORDER OF HIS EXECUTOR.** New York: Walter S. Scott, January 12–13, 1934. 8vo, printed tan card covers. 40, (2) + 9, (3) pages; 770 + 224 lots; 2 halftone plates included in the first pagination.

Sale 322 in the Morgenthau series. The second pagination, of 224 lots, comprises a stand-alone supplement that is only occasionally present in copies of the catalogue (the supplement includes no ancient material). A special hardcover edition was produced, which includes the supplement. The sale featured over 200 lots of ancient silver and bronze coins and 46 lots of Greek and Roman gold coins. Both of the plates are entirely devoted to ancient coins. Highlights include a Syracusan dekadrachm attributed to Euainetos (lot 280 at \$75), two gold mnaieions (oktadrachms) of Ptolemy II Philadelphos with Arsinoe II (lots 430 and 431, at \$53 and \$72, respectively), and a Lydian stater of the time of Kroisos with the confronted foreparts of a lion and bull (lot 435 at \$51).

**References:** Adams 11 (rated B overall, B+ for ancients [erroneously unrated in the printed book]). Davis 872. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.



J.G. Macallister



68. Raymond, Wayte, and J.G. Macallister [J.C. Morgenthau]. **THE COLLECTION OF RARE GREEK GOLD AND SILVER COINS, ROMAN AND OTHER GOLD COINS FORMED BY RUSSELL BURRAGE OF BOSTON, MASS. UNITED STATES COINS CONSIGNED BY THE ESTATE OF WALTER SHAW BREWSTER, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.** New York: Walter S. Scott, October 10, 1934. 8vo, printed tan card covers. 23, (7) pages; 465 lots; 5 halftone plates included in the pagination.

Sale 338 in the Morgenthau series. All five of the plates are entirely devoted to ancient coins, which comprise the first 319 lots of the sale (well over 100 lots are gold or electrum). The sale highlights included two gold 100 litrae (double dekadrachm) pieces from Syracuse, lots 232 and 233, which brought an extraordinary \$500 and \$400, respectively—an enormous amount of money for the time. A gold stater of Antiochus III (lot 247) brought \$200, as did the following lot, a Tarentine gold half stater. In silver coins, a tetradrachm of Mithridates VI with a drinking Pegasus reverse (lot 103) brought \$100, while tetradrachms of Antigonos III Doson and Perseus (lots 74 and 75) brought \$60 and \$75, respectively. Overall, the sale generated very strong results. Other material from Burrage's collection had been sold in Lucerne just the week before by Jacob Hirsch (Ars Classica Sale XVII).

**References:** Adams 16 (rated C+ overall, B for ancients [erroneously unrated in the printed book]). Spring 435.



BURRAGE COLLECTION

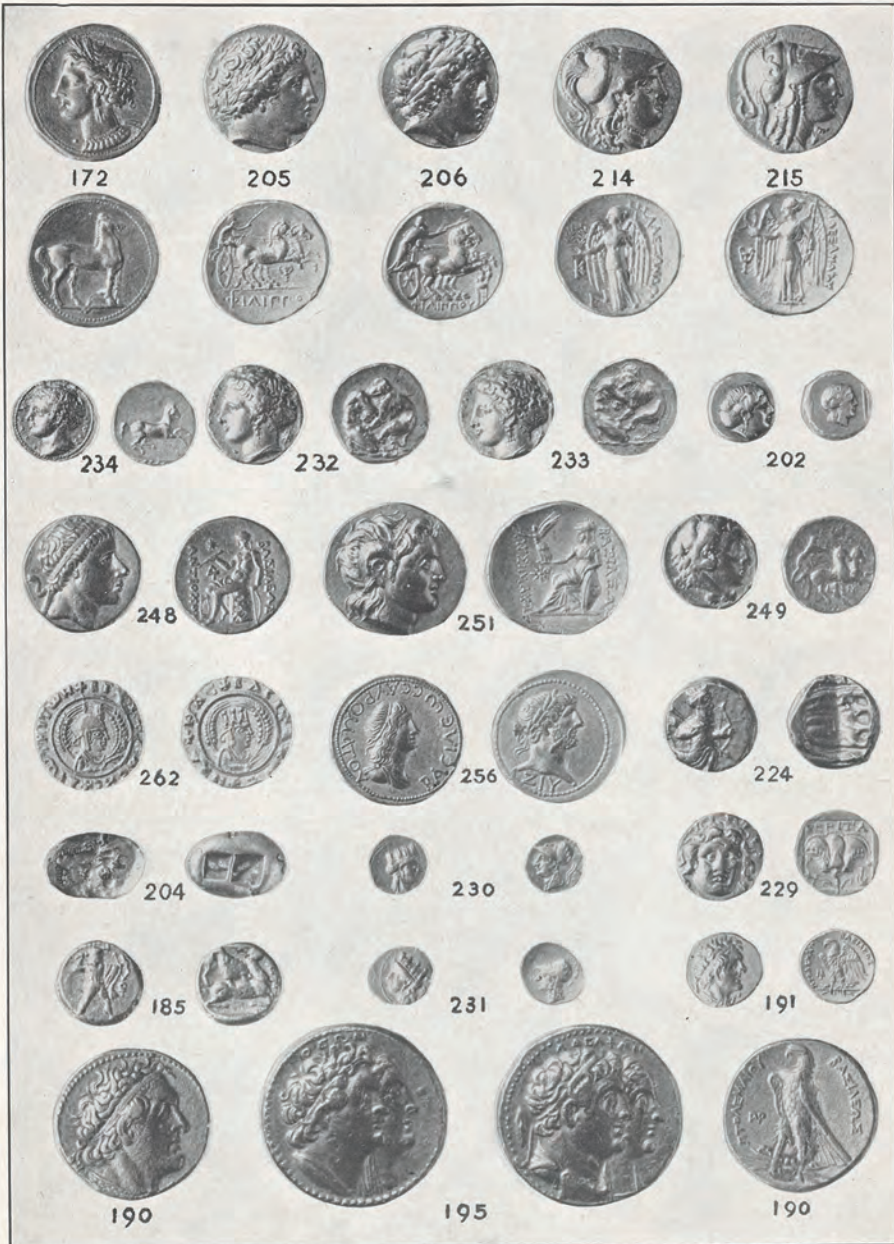


PLATE IV



69. Raymond, Wayte, and J.G. Macallister [J.C. Morgenthau]. **THE SPLENDID COLLECTION OF RARE EGYPTIAN, GREEK AND ROMAN GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER COINS OF GREAT HISTORICAL INTEREST FORMED BY RUSSELL BURRAGE OF BOSTON, MASS.** New York: Walter S. Scott, November 26, 1934. 8vo, printed tan card covers. 27, (13) pages; 523 lots; 11 halftone plates, numbered 6–16, included in the pagination.

Sale 342 in the Morgenthau series. Part II of the Burrage collection, with the plates numbered continuously from the first sale (though not the lots). The sale includes nearly 300 ancient coins, with a fine group of Byzantine coins following. A splendid offering of coins of Roman Alexandria starts the sale, comprising the first 142 lots, and these are well-represented on the plates. A smaller but rather choice group of coins of the Ptolemaic kings is included, as is an interesting specialist collection of gold coins of Constantius II. Plated highlights included a splendid tetradrachm of Arsinoe II (lot 172 at \$31.50), an exceptional tetradrachm from Sidon of Ptolemy IV Philopator (lot 175 at \$71), and an aureus of Gallienus (VBIQVE PAX reverse) described as mint state (lot 235 at \$65). This and the preceding Burrage sale should be considered necessary accompaniments to the *Ars Classica* XVII sale.

**References:** Adams 17 (rated B– overall, B for ancients [erroneously unrated in the printed book]). Spring 436.

BURRAGE COLLECTION

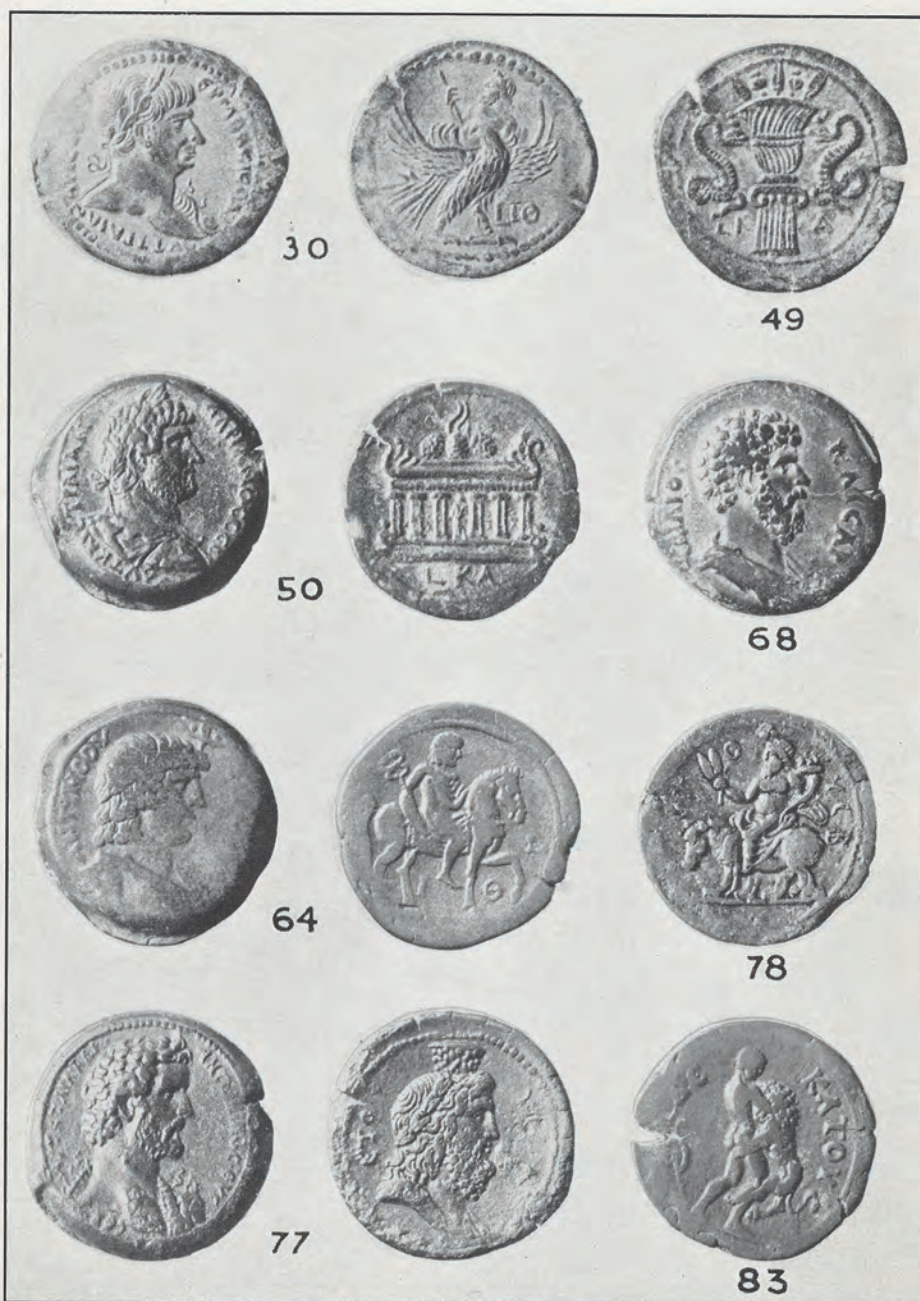


PLATE VIII

70. Raymond, Wayte, and J.G. Macallister [J.C. Morgenthau]. **RARE UNITED STATES, FOREIGN AND ANCIENT COINS FROM THE RUSSELL BURRAGE, WALDO NEWCOMER AND OTHER IMPORTANT COLLECTIONS.** New York: Morgenthau, May 9, 1935. Crown 4to, printed tan card covers. 25, (3) pages; 444 lots; 7 halftone plates.

Sale 348 in the Morgenthau series. The first two and a half plates are entirely devoted to ancient Greek and Roman coins. The sale includes 29 lots of ancient gold coins. The Greek silver featured some remarkable specimens, including an Orrescii stater from the Allatini collection (lot 133 at \$165), a didrachm of Segesta from the Mathey collection (lot 143 at \$140), and a superb stater of Thurium (lot 160 at \$136).

**References:** Adams 19 (rated B+ overall, B– for ancients [erroneously unrated in the printed book]). Spring 437.

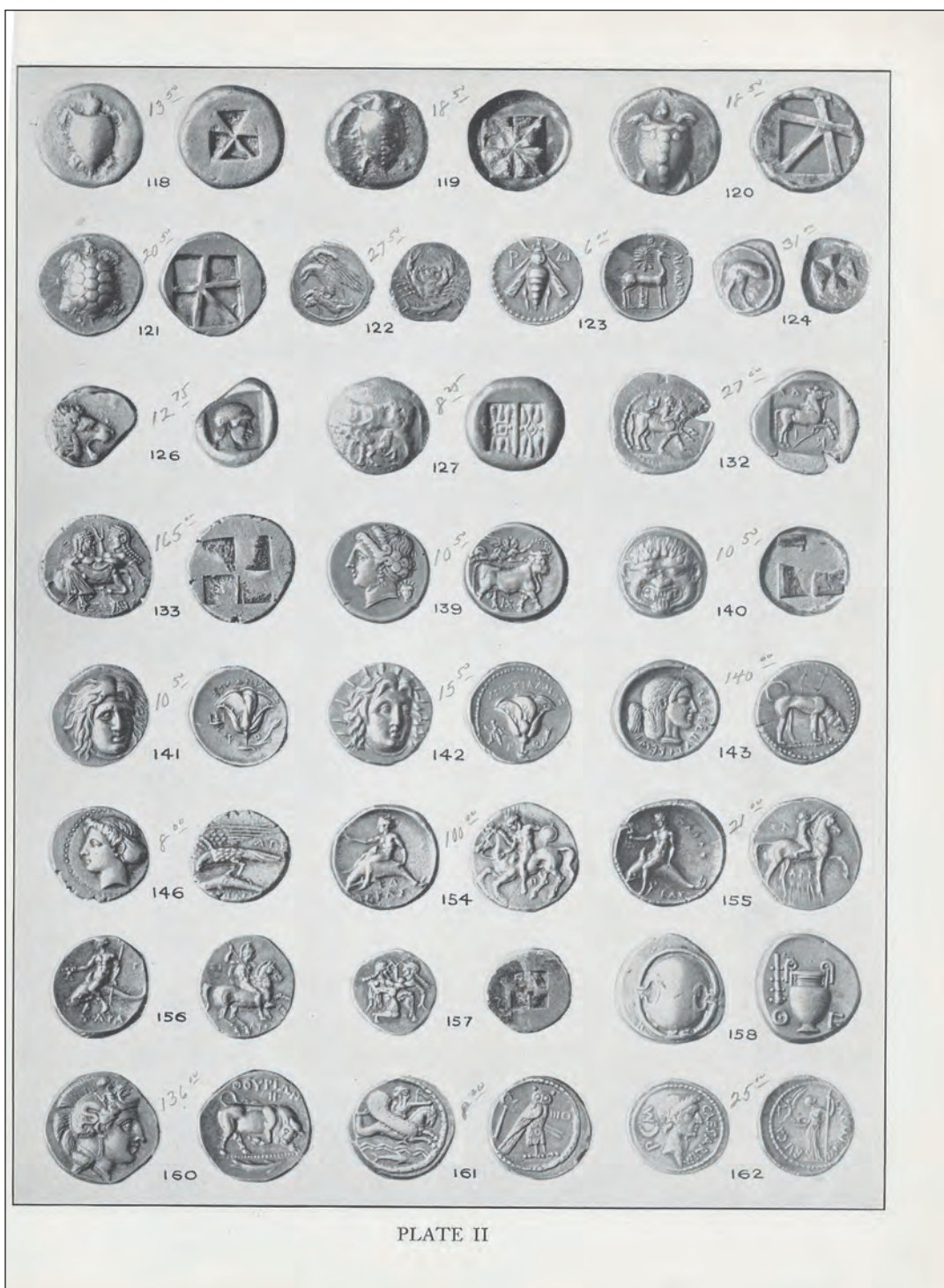


PLATE II



71. Raymond, Wayte, and J.G. Macallister [J.C. Morgenthau]. **RARE SOUTH AMERICAN GOLD COINS, THE PROPERTY OF RICHARD SANTOS, JR. OF LIMA, PERU. WITH ADDITIONS AND TWO COLLECTIONS OF UNITED STATES COINS.** New York: Walter S. Scott, April 7–8, 1937. Crown 4to, printed tan card covers. 45, (3) pages; 980 lots; 8 halftone plates.

Sale 375 in the Morgenthau series. Three full plates are devoted to ancient coins, which comprise most of lots 268–332. Highlights include a choice drachm of Messana as Zankle (lot 285 at \$91), an archaic tetradrachm of Syracuse (lot 301 at 86), a Republican gold 60 asses (lot 316 at \$85), and an aureus of Julia Domna (lot 322 at \$90).

**References:** Adams 29 (rated B overall, B– for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 11566. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.

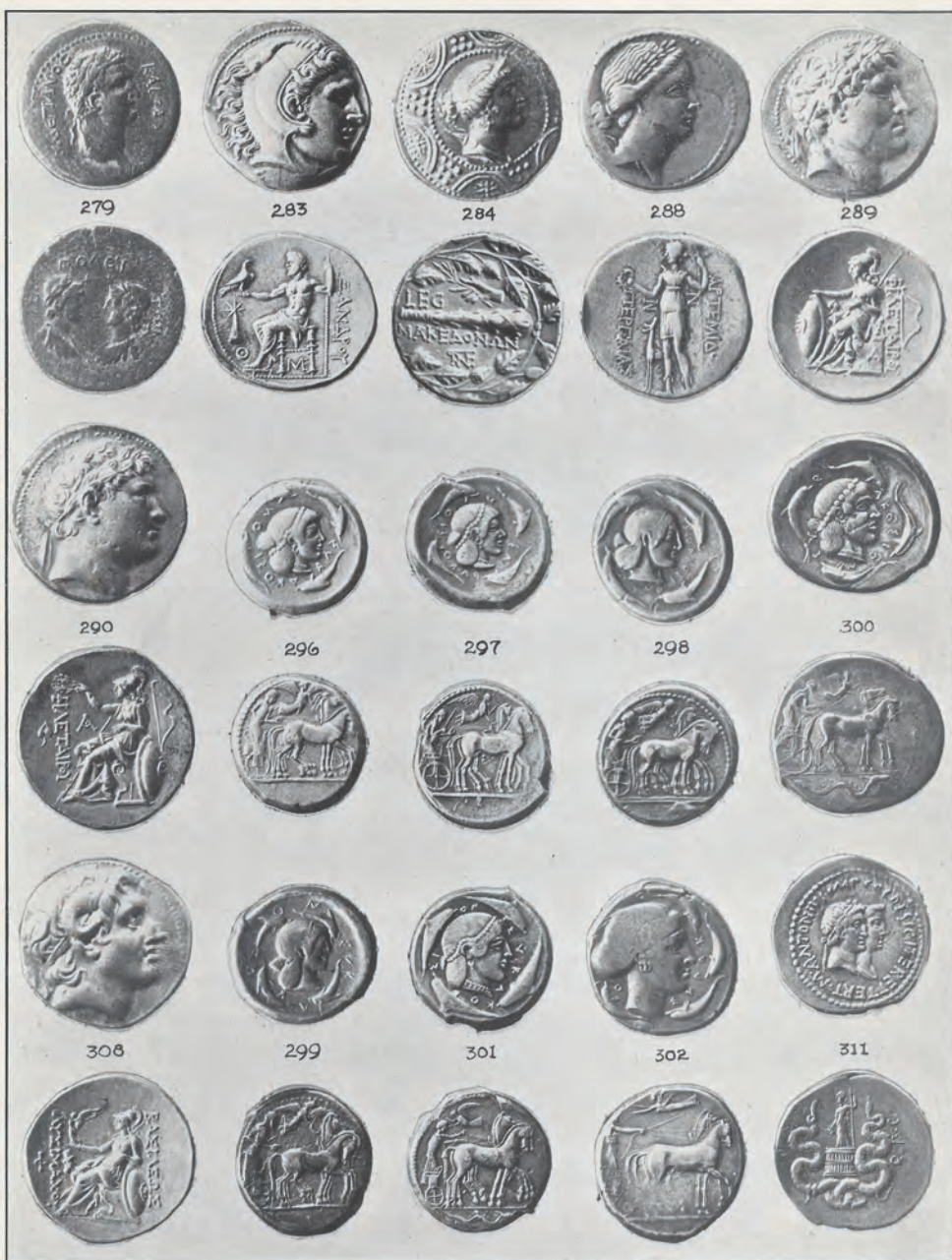


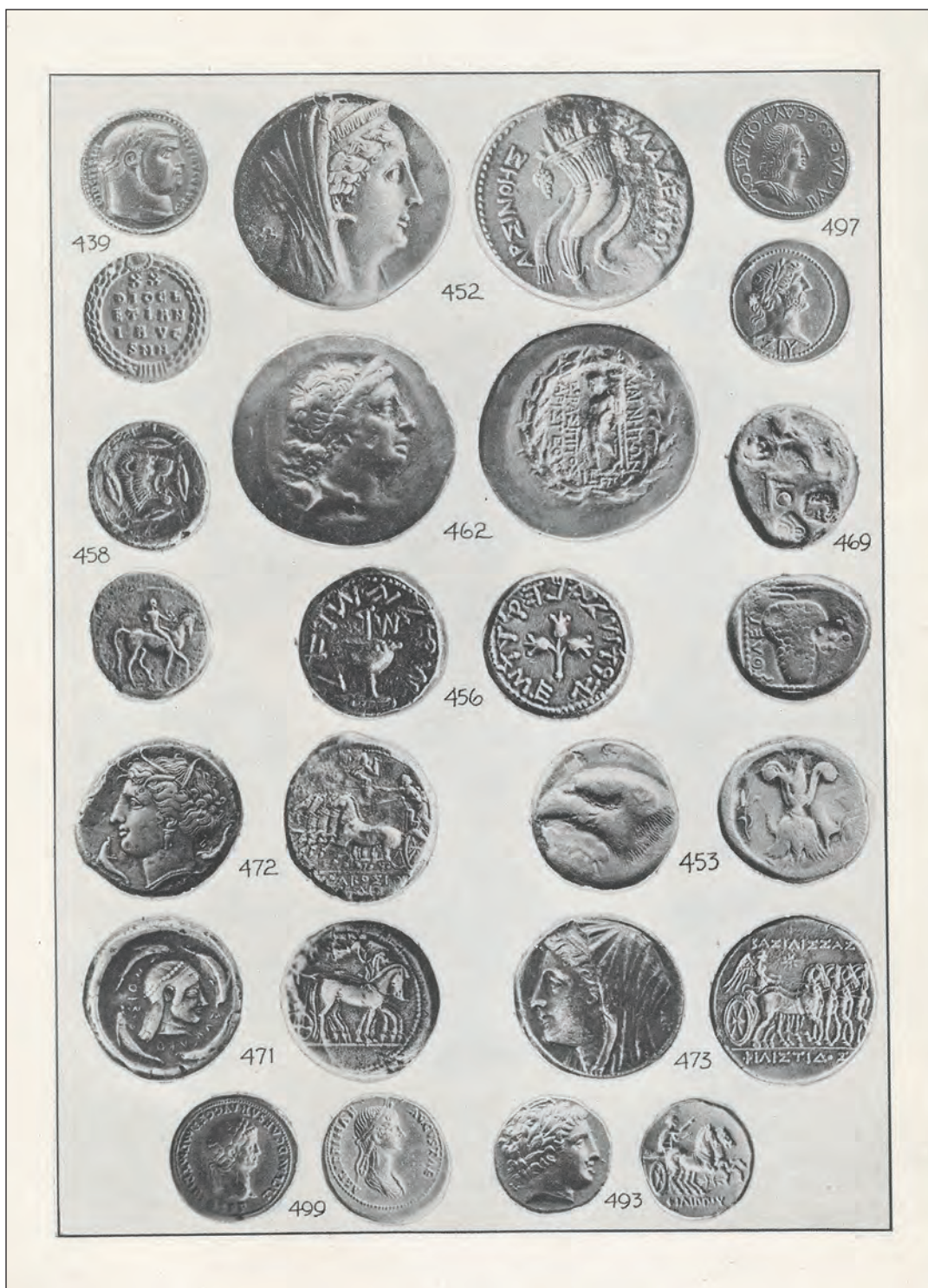
PLATE VI

72. Raymond, Wayte, and J.G. Macallister [J.C. Morgenthau]. **RARE UNITED STATES, ANCIENT AND FOREIGN COINS, PROPERTIES OF GEO. A. GILLETTE, L.J. TROY AND OTHERS.** New York: Walter S. Scott, June 9, 1937. 8vo, printed tan card covers. (2), 19, (3) pages; 615 lots; 2 halftone plates included in the pagination.

Sale 378 in the Morgenthau series. One of the two plates is entirely devoted to ancient coins. Highlights include a rare aureus of Diocletian (lot 439 at \$60), a Year Two shekel of the Jewish War (lot 456 at \$76), and an aureus of Claudius and Agrippina (lot 499 at \$76).

**References:** Adams 30 (rated B– overall, B– for ancients).







73. Raymond, Wayte, and J.G. Macallister [J.C. Morgenthau]. **RARE UNITED STATES, FOREIGN AND ANCIENT COINS, THE PROPERTY OF JASCHA HEIFETZ AND OTHER COLLECTORS.** New York: Gregory Mozian, March 15–16, 1938. Crown 4to, printed tan card covers. 41, (3) pages; 867 lots; 8 halftone plates.

Sale 388 in the Morgenthau series. The first three plates are entirely devoted to ancient coins. Highlights include a Year Three shekel of the Jewish War (lot 15 at \$51), a Parthian tetradrachm of Artabanus II (lot 30 at \$62.50), and a gold stater of Antiochus III of Syria (lot 40 at \$126).

**References:** Adams 36 (rated B+ overall, B– for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 11989. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.



PLATE II

74. Raymond, Wayte, and J.G. Macallister [J.C. Morgenthau]. **RARE UNITED STATES, FOREIGN AND ANCIENT GOLD COINS, THE PROPERTIES OF MR. SALVADOR TRIGUEROS, SONSONATE, SALVADOR, C.A., ESTATE OF L.O. BUCKLIN, LITTLE FALLS, N.Y., AND OTHER COLLECTORS.** New York: Walter S. Scott, November 16, 1938. Crown 4to, printed tan card covers. 17, (3) pages; 290 lots; 2 halftone plates.

Sale 392 in the Morgenthau series. While the first 14 lots comprise Roman gold coins, only a single example is plated: lot 1, an aureus of Julius Caesar and Octavian provenanced to the Vierordt and Weber collection. Unfortunately, the printed prices realized list reports the price as \$2.80, which, given the prices of other pieces, is clearly incorrect. Perhaps a hand-priced copy of the catalogue that was annotated at the sale may be able to shed light on this.

**References:** Adams 37 (rated C+ overall, C+ for ancients).



PLATE I



75. Raymond, Wayte, and J.G. Macallister [J.C. Morgenthau]. **RARE COINS OF THE WORLD FROM THE WALDO NEWCOMER COLLECTION. THE UNITED STATES COIN COLLECTION OF ARTHUR L. GRAY, SAGINAW, MICH. AND OTHER PROPERTIES.** New York: Gregory Mozian, February 23–24, 1939. Crown 4to, printed tan card covers. 58, (2) pages; 1058 lots; 8 halftone plates included in the pagination.

Sale 394 in the Morgenthau series. A special hardcover edition was produced. As with the previous sale, only one ancient coin is depicted on the plates for this catalogue, a Year Two shekel of the Jewish War (lot 146 at \$41).

**References:** Adams 38 (rated B overall, unrated for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 12409. Davis 873.



76. Raymond, Wayte, and J.G. Macallister [J.C. Morgenthau]. **A FINE COLLECTION OF UNITED STATES COINS IN ALL METALS. ALSO AN INTERESTING GROUP OF FOREIGN AND ANCIENT COINS.** New York: O.R. Gilbert, October 5–6, 1939. Crown 4to, printed tan card covers. 50, (2) pages; 980 lots; 4 halftone plates included in the pagination.

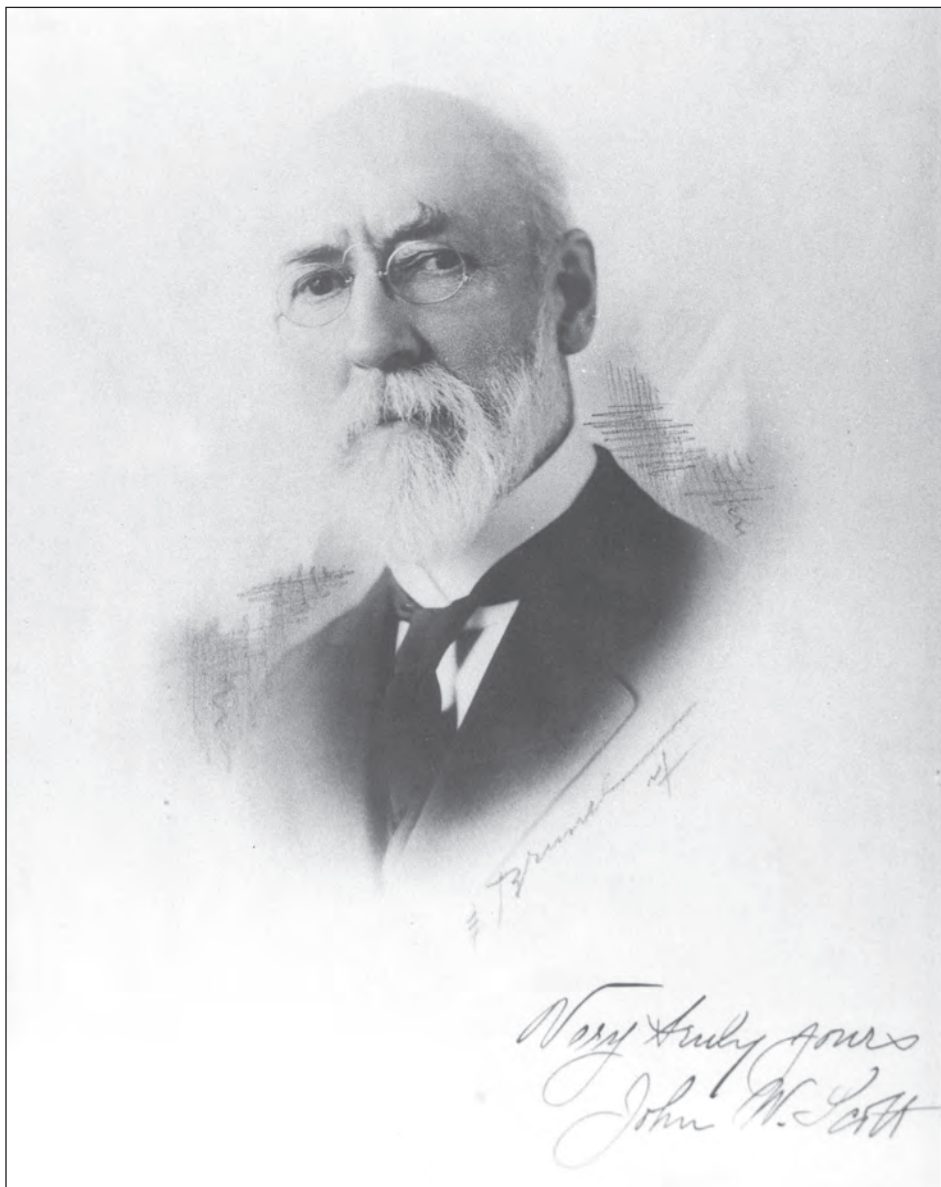
Sale 405 in the Morgenthau series. Lots 792–888 list silver Greek coins, 36 of which are depicted on the second and third plates. Highlights include tetradrachms of Katana (lot 807 at \$32.50), Arsinoe II (lot 819 at \$31), Demetrios Poliorketes (lot 842 at \$30), Philip V (lot 845 at \$31), and Syracuse in the time of Gelon (lot 865 at \$30).

**References:** Adams 43 (rated A– overall, B for ancients).









John W. Scott

## JOHN W. SCOTT

John Walter Scott (1845–1919) is a name that has become virtually synonymous with stamp collecting, with the standard catalogues he created in the nineteenth century continuing to be published today. His prominence in that field has kept his numismatic activities from receiving the appreciation they deserve. In 1875, he began to publish the *Coin Collector's Journal*, a substantive periodical in which appeared articles covering the entire spectrum of coin collecting. It did much to introduce more advanced and specialized areas of numismatics to wide readership. Beginning in 1877, Scott began to hold coin auctions in addition to his regular stamp auctions. He held fifty such sales under various corporate names including Scott & Company, the Scott Stamp & Coin Company, and the J.W. Scott Company.

The Scott coin sales can be a little confusing to collectors because the firm had its own numbering system, which is different than that used by Adams (who counts only the numismatic sales). While Scott's personal interests may not have centered on coins, he delegated well: Ed Frossard edited the first volume of the *Coin Collector's Journal*, with David Proskey taking the reins thereafter. In the auction series, Adams 1–17 and 19–26 were catalogued by Proskey, while Lyman H. Low catalogued Adams 28–41. These two men—among the finest American numismatists of their generation—elevated the Scott catalogues considerably.

Several Scott sales include photographically printed plates, but only a few of these offer ancient coins. However, these few include some very important collections, with the Saalfelder sale of 1878 and the Schieffelin sale of 1879 being especially notable. Indeed, the Schieffelin collection may be the most important named sale of ancient coins of which virtually nobody has heard (the name is not to be found in *CoinArchives Pro*), despite the fact that a plated version of the catalogue exists with four photographic plates depicting ancient coins. The Scott sales are, taken as a whole, of minor importance to provenance research of ancient coins; there are, however, notable exceptions.

77. Scott & Company. **CATALOGUE OF A FINE COLLECTION OF ANCIENT COINS, THE PROPERTY OF L. SAALFELDER, ESQ., TO WHICH IS ADDED A SMALL COLLECTION OF AMERICAN AND FOREIGN COINS.** New York: Leavitt, July 30–31, 1878. 8vo, printed pale green paper covers. 40 pages; 812 lots; 2 photographic plates.

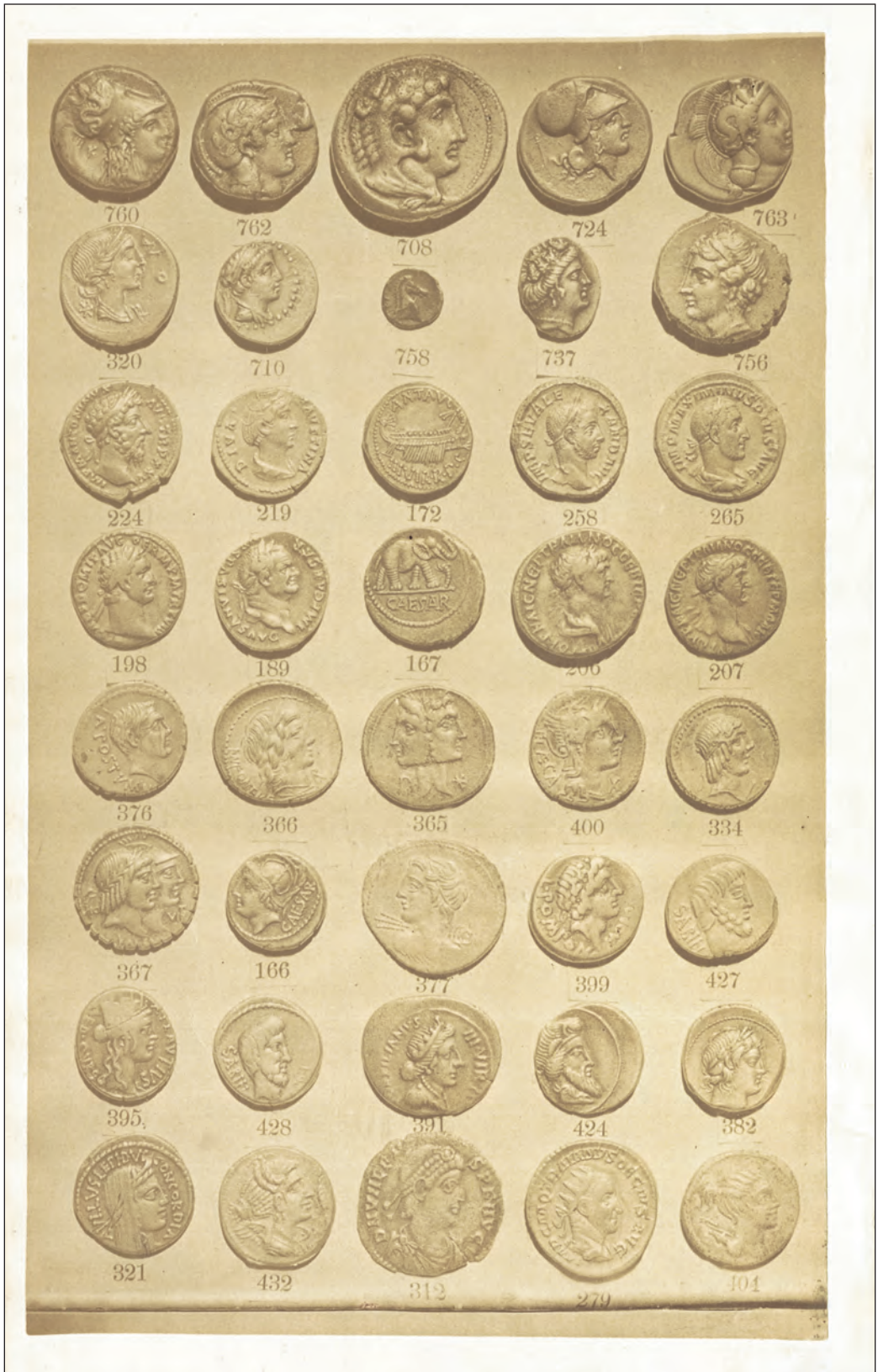
A notable sale, with a plated version of the catalogue published with two photographic prints entirely devoted to ancient Greek and Roman coins. This was the first ancient coin catalogue illustrated with photographic plates issued in the United States since 1874. It was catalogued by David Proskey. The Preface to the sale stated:

The long time which has elapsed since the last considerable sale of Ancient Coins leads us to hope for a large attendance at this one, more especially as the historical interest of the pieces, and the very fine state of preservation in which they are found, make the collection very interesting to a large number of persons, many of whom, although not regular coin collectors, would be pleased to have a few coins of Alexander the Great, Julius Caesar, Nero, and other historic personages; while the “tribute penny” of holy writ must be interesting to nearly every intelligent person. And when it is known that perfectly genuine and authentic coins, nearly two thousand years old, can be had for about double their silver value, there certainly must be many persons who will embrace the opportunity of possessing a few specimens.

For the guidance of amateurs, we have had a number of fine coins photographed, to show both obverse and reverse, a plan which, we think, will be appreciated. These catalogues, with photographs, printed on heavy paper, can be had at a cost of 35 cents each. ...

After the sale, copies of this Catalogue can be had, neatly priced, for \$1.00 post free; or with photographs, \$1.50.

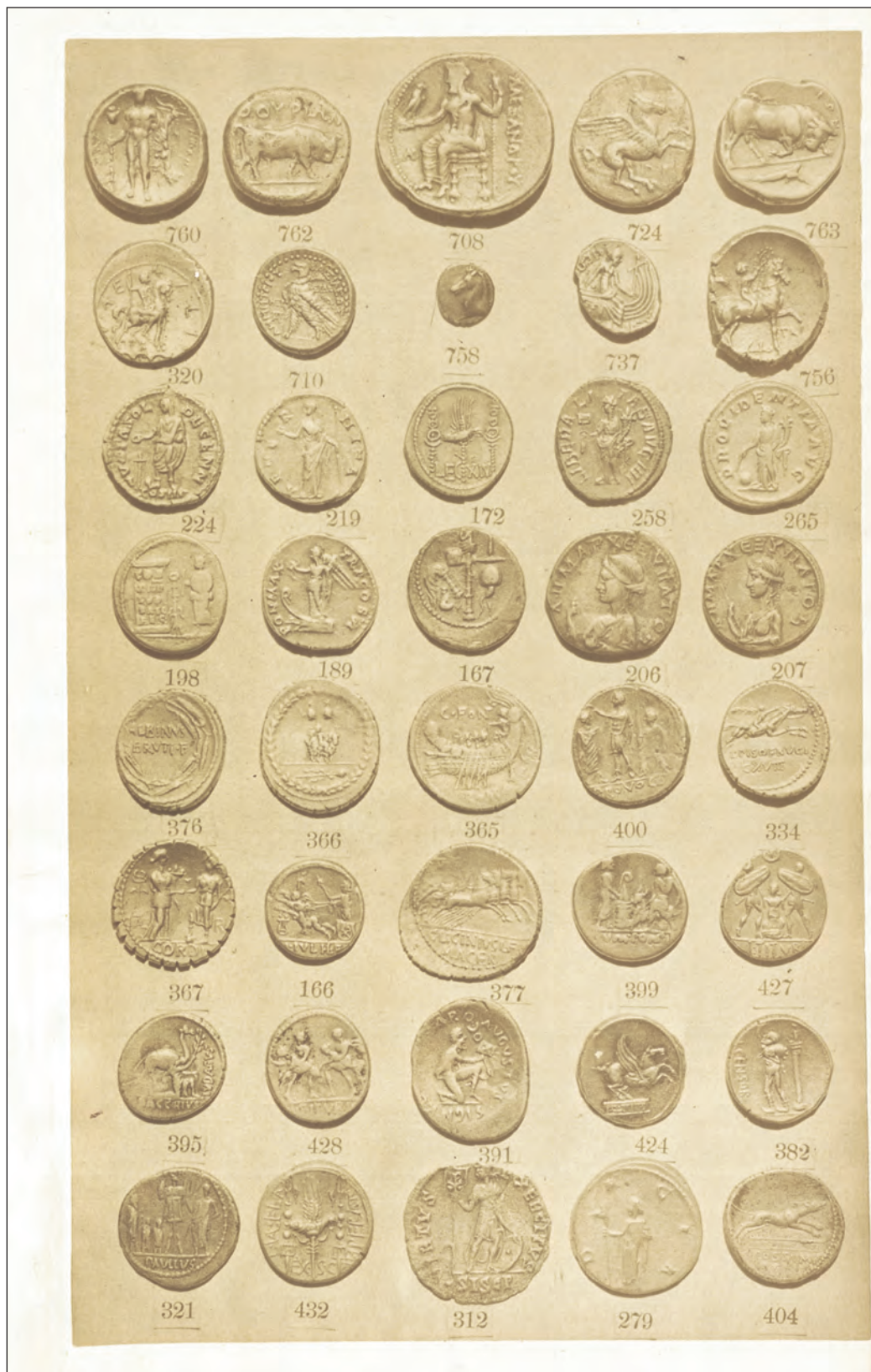
*continued*





The sale included over 500 lots of ancient coins, 40 of which are depicted on the two plates (with the obverses on one plate and the reverses on the other). Lots 165–315 feature Roman Imperial denarii, with some of those depicted on the plates including Julius Caesar, Mark Antony, Vespasian, Domitian, Plotina, Faustina the Elder, and Severus Alexander. Lots 318–446 are given over to the consular denarii, with the plates including images of issues of Porcia (lot 400 at \$3), Postumia, and Tituria (lot 427 at \$3.40). Lots 447–455 offer some Roman bronze coins; these are continued from lot 551 through 691. A variety of ancient Greek coins is found in lots 701–767, with didrachms of Corinth, Calabria and Thesos being represented on the plates along with an Alexandrine tetradrachm (lot 708 at \$5.25). The sale was not a great success. The report on the sale in the October 1878 issue of the *American Journal of Numismatics* noted that “Some 500 lots of Roman coins were sold at seemingly low prices.” An aureus of Nero brought \$10 as lot 184b—the highest price realized by an ancient coin in the sale.

**References:** Adams 4 (rated C overall, C for ancients). Davis 909. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.



78. Scott & Company. CATALOGUE OF A FINE COLLECTION OF GREEK, HEBREW, ROMAN, AND OTHER ANCIENT COINS, IN GOLD, SILVER, AND BRONZE, IN SEVEN COIN CABINETS, AND LARGE IRON SAFE, ALSO, A LIBRARY OF ABOUT SEVENTY VOLUMES OF CHOICE AND RARE BOOKS ON COINS, MANY FOLIO AND QUARTO, WITH PLATES. THE PROPERTY OF S.B. SCHIEFFELIN. New York: Leavitt, March 3–8, 1879. 8vo, printed blue paper covers. 159, (1) pages; 3006 lots; 4 albumen plates.

A very important sale of ancient coins, with the plated version of the catalogue containing four albumen photographic plates depicting nothing but ancient coins (extending into the Byzantine era). Unfortunately, the plated catalogue is so rare that its significant content is easy to overlook, and it has been generally forgotten (Adams had not seen a plated copy when he published his 1982 reference and could not say for certain how many plates it had). Samuel Bradhurst Schieffelin (1811–1900) was a successful businessman in New York, serving as president of the family's pharmaceutical company for a number of years. The April 1879 issue of the *Coin Collector's Journal* reported on the sale:

Since our last issue, the great Schieffelin coin sale has been held, and one of the largest collections of ancient coins, perhaps, in the United States dispersed. Hundreds of collectors have added to their stores, and the treasures which had hitherto been gratifying the eye of but one collector, or the eyes of his personal friends, have gone to give pleasure to many in every part of the land. One cannot think of such a dispersion without regret, for the labor of years is thus scattered, and in all probability, many a long year will roll away before a similar collection will again exist. To many interested in numismatics, the breaking up of this collection will be a great loss as with the generosity of a true collector Mr. Schieffelin had, for a long time, placed a number of the gems of his coins on exhibition in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, in Fourteenth street, in this city. There were many who having no access to other collections were thus able to study coins and went home fitted for an intelligent perception of the excellencies and beauties of fine coins. To all that large class of collectors who are seeking for instruction, and who will miss so much, the opportunity of examining a good collection or even good specimens of coins, the removal of Mr. Schieffelin's coins from the museum will be long felt as a great, if not irreparable loss, unless some other equally public spirited gentleman will do what ought to be done by other parties.

The selling of the collection as our readers are aware, occupied a whole week, the numbers present were not very great, but those that were there represented the most liberal collectors in the Union. In consequence the sale proceeded at fair rates, some pieces, as always happens,

*continued*







going far below their value, while others again brought more than similar pieces could be purchased for from the regular dealers. We do not propose to say anything about the prices obtained, as our publishers have issued a printed catalogue, giving the price of every lot and are selling it at a merely nominal price. This printed catalogue will form a kind of price list available for many years in this country, and giving its possessors a general idea of what ancient Greek and Roman coins are worth. Each of our readers should therefore at once obtain one and carefully preserve it for reference.

The *American Journal of Numismatics*, also reporting in its April 1879 issue, was less forgiving in its depiction of the results:

Messrs. Leavitt & Co. sold in New York, March 3–8, the collection of Mr. S.B. Schieffelin, embracing Greek, Roman, Hebrew and other ancient coins, and about seventy numismatic books. The catalogue, 160 pages, and 3,005 lots, was issued by Messrs. Scott & Co. The sale took place in the evening, and to this we believe must be attributed the very unsatisfactory prices received for most of the pieces. It was also unfortunate for these gentlemen, that a fire which occurred when the catalogue was nearly ready, destroyed the sheets, and thus delayed their sale for upwards of a month. Since the sale they have issued a second edition, with printed prices, which can be obtained of Messrs. Scott for \$1.50, or with photographs of some of the most interesting pieces, for \$2.50. ... The Roman coins numbered 1,280, the Greek, 953, and beside these were very many of Thrace, Sicily, Syria, Egypt, Cappadocia. &c. We were sorry to find that the sizes were given by a different scale from that known as the American, which is so much more convenient than that of Mionnet; few collectors have the latter, and if any change is to be made, it certainly should be in the direction of the metric or millimeter scale, and not backward. The haste with which the catalogue was evidently prepared, accounts for some errors in description.

The first plate includes a variety of pieces, including a well-preserved tetradrachm of Naxos (lot 2175 at \$6) and a denarius of Pertinax (lot 1083 at \$10.75). The second plate is devoted to ancient gold coins, and features a gold mnaieion (oktadrachm) of Ptolemy II Philadelphos with Arsinoe II (lot 2708), which brought a strong \$57.50. Other highlights include a gold trichryson (pentadrachm) of Ptolemy II depicting Ptolemy I Soter (lot 2693 at \$35), an exceptional aureus of Tiberius (lot 683 at \$14), two gold staters of Alexander the Great (lots 2554 and 2555 at \$12 and \$13, respectively), and one of Philip II (lot 2547 at \$12.50). Plate 3 depicts various bronze and silver pieces, including a Year 2 shekel (lot 2867, at \$16). The final plate shows the obverses of 15 larger silver coins, including a Syracusan dekadrachm (lot 2374 at \$37), and tetradrachms of Antiochus VIII and IX (lots 2683 and 2686 at \$9 and \$7.50, respectively).

An annotated copy available on the Newman Numismatic Portal shows that lot 1085, a bronze of Pertinax, had been declared by Ed Frossard to be a cast, with him also denouncing as a forgery the following lot (1086), a bronze of Titiana said to have been “the gem of Sir Edmund Temple’s collection,” in the pages of his periodical *Numisma*. Lot 1086 is depicted on Plate 3. It is also worth mentioning that several lots are noted as having been stolen, including lot 2080, a tetradrachm that is depicted on the final plate.

The presence of some pieces of dubious authenticity calls into question the utility of the catalogue’s text, making the rare plates all the more important. Ed Frossard was particularly scathing in his review of the Scott firm’s work. Criticizing its “careless translations” and “reckless transcriptions of legends,” among other sins, Frossard wrote in the March 1879 *Numisma* that “this catalogue forcibly illustrates the folly of entrusting the making of coin catalogues to individuals who possess neither training for the work nor abilities sufficient to overcome the difficulties of the task.” Two months failed to cool Frossard’s pen, and the May issue had him spend nearly half a page listing various cast, altered, and counterfeit coins, and further castigating the catalogue’s “fundamental errors” and “radical defects.” It should be noted that Frossard and Scott had a history, and *Numisma* was founded almost immediately after he parted company with Scott, by whom he had been employed as editor of the *Coin Collector’s Journal*. That said, Frossard’s criticisms appear to have merit.

Indeed, Frossard was not alone in drawing attention to forgeries in the collection. The January 1880 issue of the *American Journal of Numismatics* reprinted an article from the June 1879 issue of *Art Amateur* by Gaston L. Feuardent, which included a lengthy list of cast, electrotype, altered and otherwise false coins. In addition to lot 1086, mentioned by Frossard and which Feuardent describes as “a piece of antique metal, on which a modern hand had engraved a fanciful type,” Feuardent condemns lots 765 (“a poor modern cast”) and 2094 (“A Sixteenth Century forgery”), both of which are also depicted on the plates. A number of other lots in the sale are also denounced by him, as well as “many others too numerous to describe.” It is perhaps not surprising that when additional material from the Schieffelin collection was sold in 1898, it was by Sotheby’s in London.

**References:** Adams 7 (rated A overall, A for ancients). Davis 911. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.

79. Scott Stamp & Coin Co. CATALOGUE OF COINS, MEDALS AND TOKENS, THE PROPERTY OF VARIOUS OWNERS, CONSISTING IN PART OF GREEK SILVER; UNITED STATES GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER; A LARGE NUMBER OF MINOR PROOF SETS; CANADIAN, INCLUDING SOME CHOICE OR RARE, AMONG WHICH A NORTH-WEST TOKEN (THE LAST LOT IN THE CATALOGUE), AND A FINE LINE OF FOREIGN CROWNS. New York: Henry C. Merry, June 27–28, 1895. 8vo, printed green paper covers. 41, (1) pages; 865 lots; 2 halftone plates.

The two halftone plates include single-sided images of ten ancient coins, primarily Greek silver, little of it remarkable. The highlights include a tetradrachm of Lysimachus with Alexander deified (lot 43 at \$4.50), a Year 2 shekel of the Jewish War (lot 114 at \$16.25), and a tetradrachm of Zeugitania (lot 125 at \$4.30). The catalogue itself complains about the quality of the plate here reproduced, claiming that “injustice is done to nearly all the pieces in it,” though only U.S. coins are particularly noted in the lament.

**References:** Adams 40 (rated B– overall, C for ancients). Davis 915.





The  
Clement Ferguson



Numismatic  
Collection,



*TO BE SOLD AT AUCTION,*

BY

**BANGS & CO.,**

739 and 741 Broadway, New York,

At 2 O'CLOCK P. M.,

**January 30th and 31st, 1883.**

Catalogued by H. P. SMITH, 269 W. 52d St., N. Y. City.

## HARLAN PAGE SMITH

Harlan Page Smith (1839–1902) was one of the principals of the New York Coin & Stamp Company, discussed earlier. He entered the numismatic trade at the age of forty as part of a short-lived duo with H.G. Sampson. When that partnership dissolved in early 1881, Smith wasted no time in setting out his own shingle, holding the first auction under his own name in April 1881. He held twenty more sales before teaming up with David Proskey to form New York Coin & Stamp in 1888. Four of the solo Smith sales are discussed below.

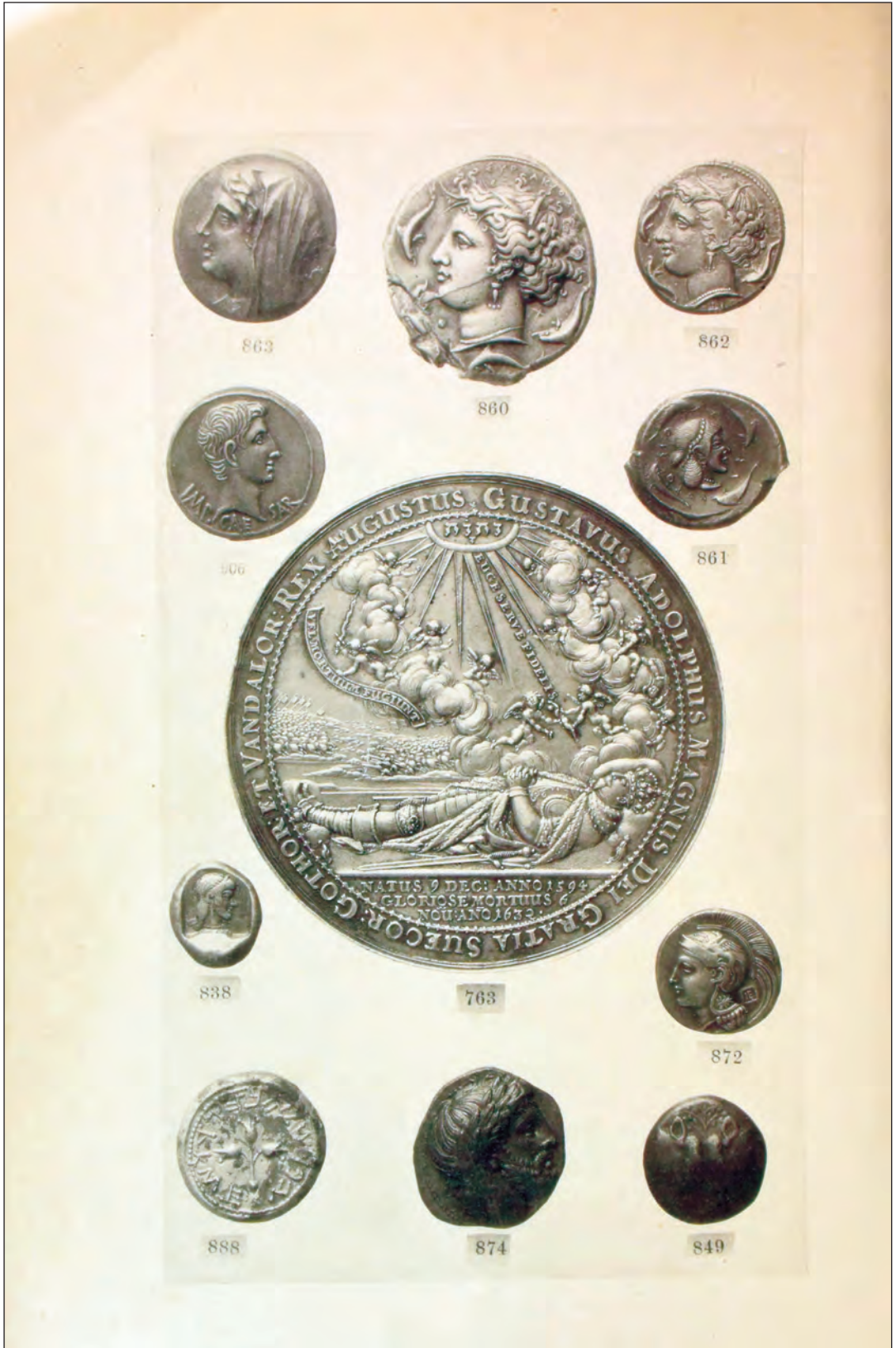
According to Smith's obituary, written by Lyman Low for the July 1902 issue of the *American Journal of Numismatics*, Smith "was always credited with good judgment, and with his extensive knowledge of coins, he proved a bold operator; his activity and constant presence at coin sales was a valued contribution to assured success. His manner was frank, and, by those who did not know him well, he was occasionally thought to be somewhat brusque; but the warmest heart—and it was easily found—beat within his breast, and there are many who felt his kindness and friendship." The unsigned obituary in *The Numismatist*, presumably written by editor George Heath, evinced the same sentiments more directly: "While to a stranger Mr. Harlan P. Smith's appearance, manners and methods were repellent, those who knew him well and were acquainted with his kind disposition, can only speak of him in terms of the highest praise." One begins to understand why photographs of Mr. Smith are not to be found.

Smith had a strong personal interest in ancient coins, as reflected in the May 1906 auction catalogue of his collection published by the Chapman Brothers (and listed earlier in this work). Thus, they made up a larger proportion of his business than was usually the case among 19th-century American coin dealers. Of his twenty-one sales, thirteen of them are rated for ancients by Adams, and five of them receive ratings of B or above. Two of them, both held in 1883, receive an A in the ancients category—happily, both of these sale catalogues exist with plates. We might wish today that Smith had been a more active dealer, but—as he apparently traded in coins for the fun of it rather than out of economic necessity—we should be grateful for what we have from him, as he was among the more knowledgeable dealers of his day.

**80. Smith, H.P. THE CLEMENT FERGUSON NUMISMATIC COLLECTION.** New York: Bangs & Co., January 30–31, 1883. 8vo, printed pale green paper covers. 72 pages; 956 lots; 4 collotype plates.

One of Smith's two most important sales, the other of which (that of Edward Maris) is American in focus. This was the first Smith sale for which he issued a plated catalogue, stating that "Fifty copies of this Catalogue, containing plates, will be sold at one dollar per copy." Three of the four plates ("artotypes" prepared by Edward Bierstadt) feature at least some ancient coins. The first includes the star of the show, a Syracusan dekadrachm attributed to Kimon struck from a cracked obverse die. The coin, lot 860, sold to George Klein of Vicksburg, Mississippi, for \$240, a very strong price for the time. The plate also depicts three Syracusan tetradrachms of various types, an exceptional tetradrachm of Philip II (lot 874 at a robust \$38), a Year 2 shekel, and what is described as a silver medallion of Augustus (lot 906 at \$22), and which would now be called a cistophorus. The second plate shows the reverses of two of the pieces for which the obverse is shown on Plate 1: lot 863, a Syracusan tetradrachm depicting Philistis, wife of Hiero II, and lot 874, the tetradrachm of Philip II. The final plate mostly depicts sestertii, with examples depicting Nero, Galba, Titus, Nerva, and Trajan, including a Judea Capta sestertius of Titus (lot 336) that sold for an incredible \$80.

**References:** Adams 8 (rated A overall, A for ancients). Davis 939. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.





**81. Smith, H.P. A COLLECTION OF HISTORICAL COINS AND MEDALS.** New York: Bangs & Co., March 16–17, 1883. 8vo, printed gray paper covers. 76 pages; 1082 lots; 2 collotype plates.

A rare plated catalogue, with only a few copies known. The first plate is entirely devoted to Greek silver coins, with the second focusing on Roman silver coins (with one unrelated modern piece also included). The first plate includes a tetradrachm of Akragas (lot 487 at \$17), an unusually beautiful tetradrachm of Alexander (lot 527 at \$14), and a Year 2 half shekel and Year 3 shekel of the Jewish War (lots 529 and 530, respectively, at \$55 and \$42). The highlight of the second plate is lot 710, a Brutus denarius of Servilius Casca Longus, both sides of which are shown, which sold for \$20.

**References:** Adams 9 (rated B+ overall, A for ancients). Davis 940. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.

GREEK SILVER



498



527



505



525



521



508



529



487



516



501



530



506



512



511



514



515



492

March 1883,

82. Smith, H.P. **THE NUMISMATIC COLLECTION OF WALTER R. HUBBARD, OF MONTREAL.** New York: Bangs & Co., July 12–13, 1883. 8vo, printed gray paper covers. 68 pages; 1020 lots; 2 collotype plates.

While Smith states in the catalogue that 50 copies were being published with plates, only a small number of them survive. The first plate includes four Roman bronzes, including a fine sestertius of Galba (lot 497 at \$1.60). The second plate is mostly devoted to Greek silver coins, though an aureus of Antoninus Pius (lot 345 at \$15.75) is also included; other highlights include a splendid tetradrachm of Alexander III (lot 450 at \$11.75), a drachm of Cnidus (lot 442 at \$5), and a tetradrachm of Pergamon (lot 411 at \$5).

**References:** Adams 11 (rated B overall, B for ancients). Davis 941. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.

ROMAN BRONZE AND AMERICAN COPPER.



504



513



507



887



497



890



896



945



610



597



611



885



917



937



929

JULY, 1883.



**83. Smith, H.P. WAR MEDAL COLLECTION OF STEWART DOUGLAS, ESQ., LATE OF BIRMINGHAM, ENG., TOGETHER WITH CONSIGNMENTS OF MISCELLANEOUS COINS, ETC.** New York: Bangs & Co., June 4–5, 1885. 8vo, printed gray paper covers. 64 pages, printed in red; 1185 lots; 2 collotype plates.

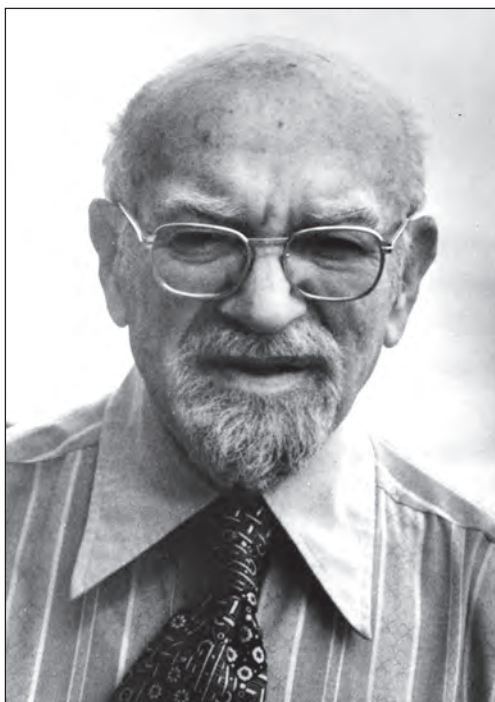
Another rare plated sale, despite the advertised print run of 50 copies. The sale featured a fine collection of British war medals as well as orders and decorations of the world. Ancient coins comprise only a small part of the sale. The first plate includes a silver stater of Olympia (lot 677, described as a tetradrachm of Elis, at \$13.50), a Sicilian didrachm of Pyrrhos (lot 697 at \$10.50), a stater of Locri Opuntii (lot 683 at \$1.25) and a tetradrachm of Lysimachus (lot 709 at \$1.20).

**References:** Adams 16 (rated B+ overall, C for ancients). Davis 943.





Morton Stack



J.B. Stack

## STACK'S

Unlike most of the cataloguers included in this volume, the Stack's firm is one that requires little in the way of introduction to today's reader. Under their current corporate identity, Stack's Bowers Galleries remains one of the most active participants in the international coin trade. The significance of their auction catalogues as a numismatic resource is difficult to overstate. It is certainly the case that anyone engaging in serious research in the field of American numismatics will find the collected Stack's catalogues to be an indispensable storehouse of numismatic information. They constitute the longest, most important series of American numismatic auction sale catalogues ever issued. Their utility, however, goes well beyond the field of U.S. coinage.

Stack's held its first auction sale in October 1935. The fact that the very first lot in the firm's first sale was an Austrian marriage medal indicates that from the beginning the Stack family wished to cater to a wide clientele with a range of interests. The period encompassed by the present study (through the end of 1939) witnessed only the first thirty-seven of their auctions, but of these thirty-seven auctions, Adams rates twenty of them for ancient coins, awarding ten sales A or B-level grades in that category. Ancient coins made up a fairly high proportion of their business.

While Stack's catalogues included ancient coins from the very beginning, what they did not usually include were illustrations. Only a few of the early Stack's catalogues feature photographically printed illustrations, and these are invariably halftones. The Reinhold Faelten sale, for which Stack's issued an oversized catalogue with 27 halftone plates depicting Greek, Roman and Byzantine coins, is by far the most important. I include two additional notable sales below.



84. Stack's. AUCTION SALE CATALOGUE OF THE REINHOLD FAELTEN COLLECTION OF ANCIENT COINS. New York: Stack's, January 20–22, 1938. Tall 4to, printed off-white card covers. Frontispiece portrait; 94, (4) pages; 2169 lots; 27 halftone plates with tissue guards.

The first truly important collection of ancient coins to be sold by Stack's at auction. The Stack family emphasized the significance of the sale by publishing the catalogue in an oversized format; unfortunately, it was published in insubstantial card covers, and the combination of a somewhat cumbersome size and an inadequate binding means that, while not a rare catalogue, obtaining a copy in fine condition is indeed difficult. About nine of the plates (halftones of middling quality) are given over to Byzantine coins, leaving 18 plates or so devoted to ancient coins. Some highlights include: a gold mnaieion (oktadrachm) of Ptolemy II Philadelphos with Arsinoe II (Ptolemy I and Berenike I on reverse), which brought \$100 (lot 80, on Plate 2); a gold mnaieion of Arsinoe II Philadelphos, which brought \$125 (lot 131, also on Plate 2); a rare gold tetradrachm of the period of Ptolemy VI to Ptolemy VIII (Svoronos 1500, attributed here to Cleopatra III), which brought \$180, the highest price of any of the lots in the sale (lot 271, on Plate 4); and a Roman Republican aureus of Cassius Longinus and Marcus Servilius, an interesting coin that brought \$100 (lot 1481, on Plate 13). Faelten (1856–1949) was a prominent music teacher who with his brother Carl had developed and published a system of instruction for the piano.

**References:** Adams 15 (rated A– overall, A for ancients). Clain-Stefanelli 1715. Grierson 282. Spring 848.

PLATE IV

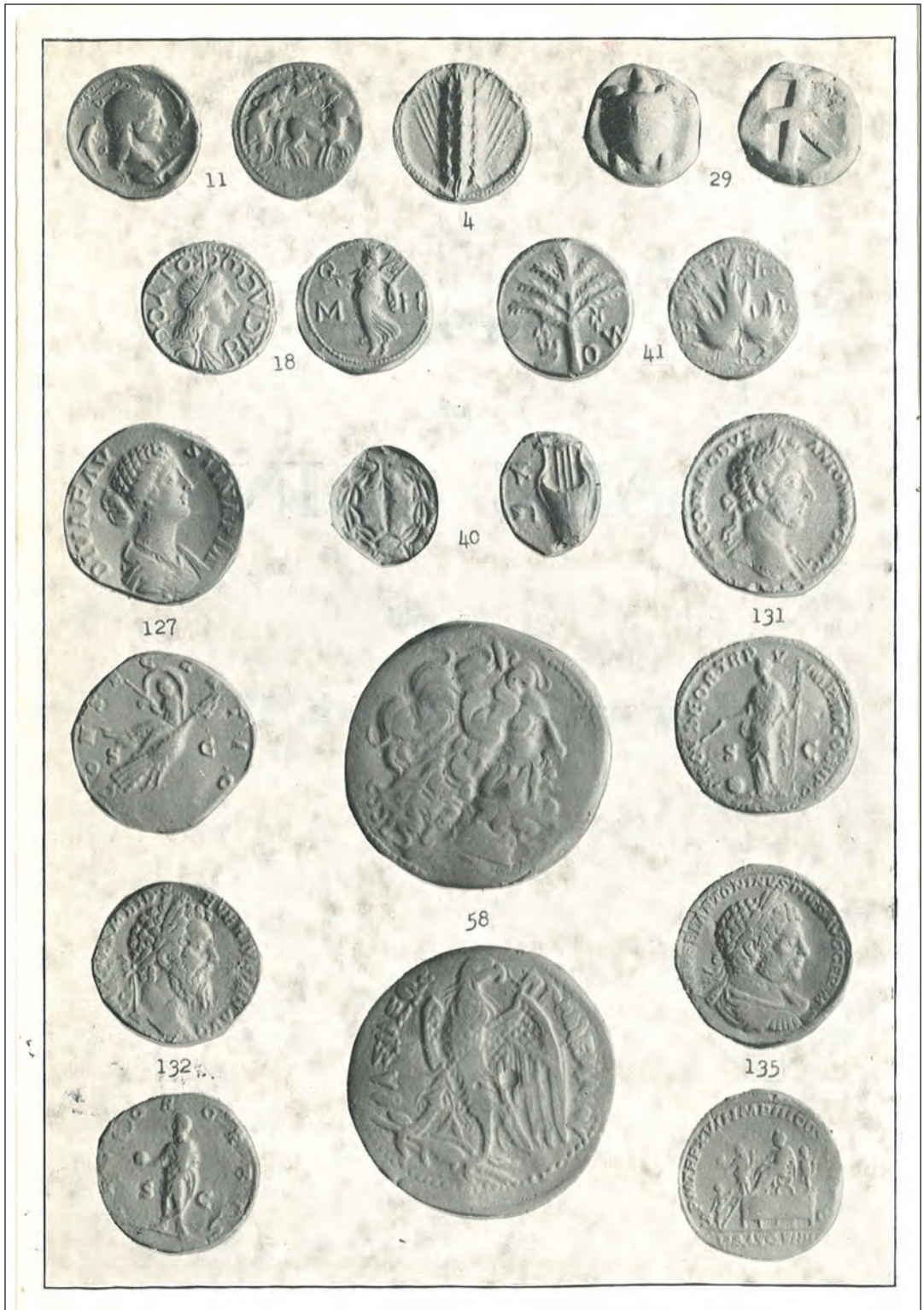


85. Stack's. **AUCTION SALE OF RARE COINS FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF ALEXANDER P. MCKENZIE (PART II) SPOKANE, WASH. AND MR. DAVID PROSKEY (PART I) NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.** New York: Hotel Pennsylvania, January 27–28, 1939. 8vo, printed off-white card covers. 79, (5) pages; 1810 lots; 9 halftone plates issued in a separately printed supplement.

The plate supplement includes two full plates of ancient coins. The first features both Greek and Roman coins, including a large bronze of Didius Julianus (lot 132 at \$10), a 48 mm Alexandrine bronze of Ptolemy II Philadelphos (lot 58 at \$7.25), and a Syracusan tetradrachm of Gelon (lot 11 at \$7.50). The second plate is devoted to large Roman bronzes, including sestertii of Maximinus Thrax and Balbinus.

**References:** Adams 25 (rated B overall, B for ancients). Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.







**86. Stack's. AUCTION SALE OF RARE COINS FROM AN IMPORTANT COLLECTION.** New York: Hotel Pennsylvania, June 3 & 10, 1939. 8vo, printed tan card covers. 74, (2) pages; 1797 lots; 15 halftone plates.

Three of the 15 high-quality halftone plates include ancient coins. The third plate features six Greek and Roman gold coins, highlighted by a trichryson (pentadrachm) of Ptolemy II (lot 819 at \$60) and a K-type mnaieion (oktadrachm) of Arsinoe II Philadelphos attributed here to Cleopatra I, wife of Ptolemy V (lot 821 at \$135). Lot 822, an oktadrachm of Cleopatra III, wife of Ptolemaios VIII, was not depicted, though it sold for an impressive \$110. Plate 7 includes a denarius of Domitian (lot 1289 at \$5) and Plate 8 includes a Bar Kokhba revolt tetradrachm (lot 1280 at \$40).

**References:** Adams 29 (rated B overall, B for ancients).





Charles E. Anthon, a serious 19th-century collector of ancient coins and one of William H. Stobridge's best customers. *Photo courtesy of the American Numismatic Society.*

## WILLIAM H. STROBRIDGE

William H. Strobridge (1822–1899) entered the coin trade upon the commencement of the Civil War, returning to New York from Baltimore, where he had been employed as a scale salesman. The hobby was just gaining widespread popularity at that time, and his business prospered. The January 1899 issue of the *American Journal of Numismatics* carried his obituary, which noted that “for fifteen years he stood at the head of his profession.” This was particularly impressive given that his specialties were outside the most popular areas of collecting. Speaking of the early American dealers, John W. Adams has called Strobridge “easily the best 19th century student/cataloger of ancient coins and probably of European coins as well.”

Strobridge was best known as a cataloguer of auction sales. Of the Strobridge series, John W. Adams writes:

Beginning with the Lilliendahl sale of May 1862, there follows an absolutely superb series of auction catalogs. While relatively brief in number (twenty-nine), these are unsurpassed in quality of content; twelve — more than 40% — receive a rating of A or better and only the non-numismatic sales fall below a rating of B. Five catalogs fall into the highest possible category: the second Lilliendahl sale (1863), the Clay collection (1871), the descriptive Seavey catalog (1873), the Stenz sale (1875) and the Brevoort/Parmelee sale (1876). The quality of the content of these five is so uniformly high that, in order to draw a modern comparison, one must turn to Garrett-Hopkins.

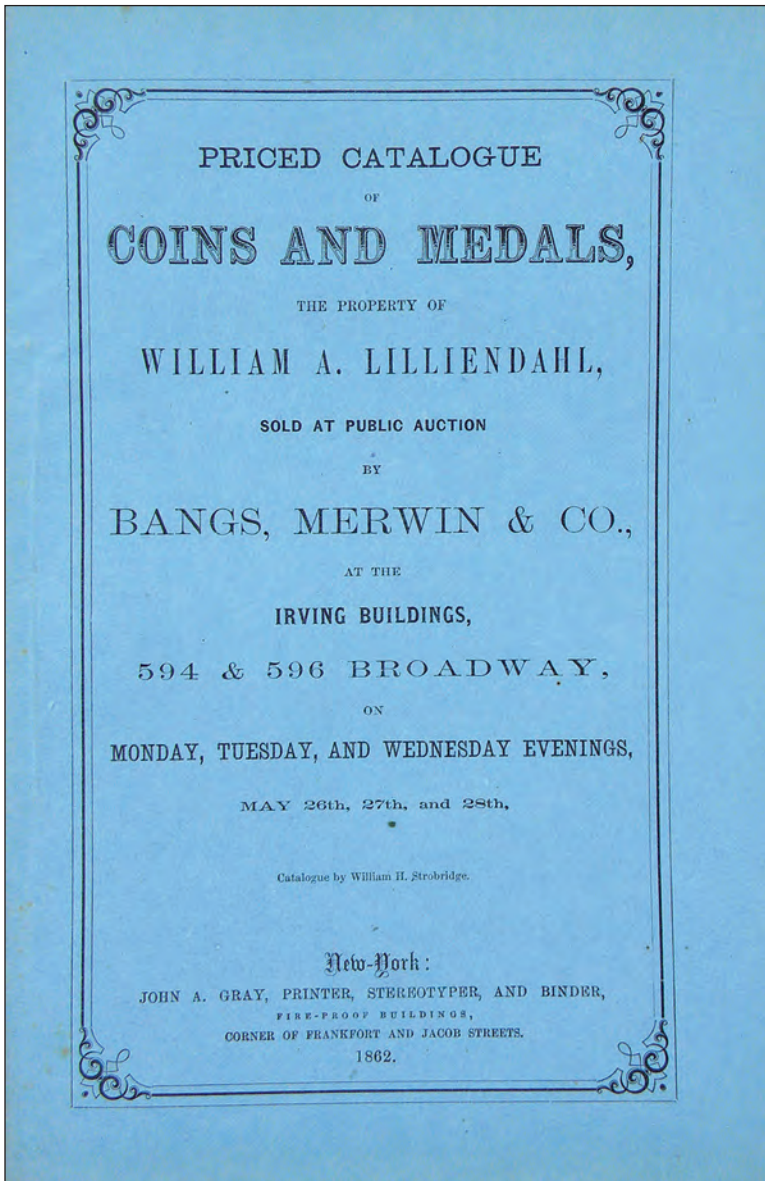
Of his twenty-nine catalogues, eleven of them are rated for ancient coins by Adams, with four of those given B ratings and three earning an A. The only cataloguers to earn more A ratings in ancient coins catalogued over twice as many sales. Sadly, only two of Strobridge’s sales are listed below, and only one is particularly important for ancient coins—plated catalogues were still in their infancy during Strobridge’s career, and had to be reserved for the most popular sales.

Strobridge’s coda was both lengthy and unfortunate. Referring to the 3871-lot Stenz sale (May 17, 1875 and following), the *American Journal of Numismatics* obituary noted that

it was largely due to the great work of preparing this catalogue that he became blind; the many thousands of small silver coins that he had to examine with a

*continued*





William H. Strobbridge was one of the earliest American numismatists to enter the coin trade as a full-time professional. His first auction, held May 26–28, 1862, offered part of the extensive collection of William A. Lilliendahl.

powerful glass, strained his eyes and caused detachment of the retina, and in November, 1876, while in an office on Nassau Street, where he had stopped on his way home, he suddenly lost his sight. ... For twenty-two years he was blind, but he possessed a host of friends who rallied round him, and these years were not the least pleasant of his life. He was confined to the house, but every day he had many callers and was seldom alone. In 1896 he had a stroke of paralysis and gradually grew weaker and weaker. For the last week of his life he was unconscious most of the time, and on the afternoon of December 17, 1898, he quietly passed away without a struggle.

Strobridge's son, Timothy Rix Strobridge, attempted to carry on the cataloguing business, but managed only eight sales of his own, none of which rose to his father's level of distinction.

87. Strobbridge, William H. **CATALOGUE OF PROF. J.M. MACALLISTER'S COLLECTION OF COINS & MEDALS**. New York: Leavitt, September 24–27, 1873. 8vo, printed pale green paper covers. (4), 96 pages; 1625 lots; 2 photographic plates mounted on thick card stock.

Two photographic plates were prepared to accompany this catalogue, but most copies encountered appear to have been issued with only one or the other—rarely both. One plate depicts a Pine Tree shilling, an 1838 pattern half dollar, various European crowns and medals, and one Roman coin: a sestertius of Vespasian (called here a “medal of the Consecratio type”) featuring a quadriga of elephants. This piece, lot 1280 in the sale, sold to a Mr. Kirke for \$4.75. Attinelli notes that five copies of the catalogue were also prepared “with illustrations, and interleaved with red tissue paper.”

**References:** Adams 15 (rated A– overall, unrated for ancients). Attinelli 67. Davis 1028.





88. Strobridge, William H. **CATALOGUE OF A PRIVATE COLLECTION OF ANCIENT COINS, AND AT THE CLOSE A FEW MODERN COINS, WITH AN ADDENDA.** New York: Leavitt, October 6–9, 1874. 8vo, printed pale green paper covers. 106 pages; 1272 lots, plus 480-lot addenda; 2 photographic plates.

A serious and scholarly catalogue by Strobridge, featuring a fine and extensive collection of Greek and Roman coins. The collection was that of Commodore Edward Middleton, and was exceptional for an American cabinet of ancient coins. Unfortunately, the sale met with disappointing results; Attinelli felt that the U.S. market wasn't advanced enough to absorb such a large number of fine Greek and Roman coins at once, rendering the owner a heavy loss. He discussed the sale in some detail:

This cabinet of ancient coins, the property of Commodore Middleton, was without a rival in the United States, in the beauty and number of its gems. In either branch, Imperial, Family, or Colonial, it stood pre-eminent and well worthy the able efforts of Mr. W.H. Strobridge, who catalogued the collection, who found himself at home in this his favorite branch of numismatology. But neither his extensive researches, able descriptions, nor the undenied merits of the collection, could prevent the anticipated result of a heavy sacrifice and loss on the part of the owner. Americans are not yet (distasteful as the confession may be), equal in education or appreciation to the absorption, at a fair value, of so large a collection of ancient coins. Yet, the patriotic Commodore chose rather to contribute heavily to the education of his fellow-countrymen, than to send his collection to Europe to be sold, as advised by some to do. The seed thus sown has not been unproductive of good, for at some subsequent sales, prices have been paid which, though not quite equal to their value in Europe, nevertheless show a marked advance, and a tacit sign of advancement in the appreciation of the merits of ancient art, as displayed on their coins and medals.

The catalogue features a reflective introduction by Strobridge, in which he discusses what coins can teach us about history. That Strobridge went to

*continued*



such trouble in cataloguing the collection at length (and arranging plated editions as well), while certainly knowing that the results would be dispiriting, says a lot about him.

Despite Strobbridge's good intentions, however, questions have been raised about some of the coins illustrated on the Middleton plates. It must be emphasized how little information was available in the United States in 1874 on the subject of ancient coins. In the July 1881 issue of the *American Journal of Numismatics*, Ed Frossard published an article on "The Becker Forgeries." Describing Becker as "the most original, scientific, and accurate forger of coins, of which modern history speaks," Frossard writes:

Becker is known to European archaeologists through various publications, notably the classification of his coins by A. von Steinbüchel, Vienna, 1836, and the more complete and accurate one made a little later by M. Pinder, Berlin, 1843. He is practically unknown to American collectors, to whom works in foreign languages are not generally available. What is known of him here is chiefly through his coins, many specimens of which are found in American cabinets, occasionally, no doubt, incognito to the owners, who imagine some brilliant and rare Syracuse tetradrachm to be truly antique, while it is, perhaps, *only a Becker*.

The scarce illustrated version of the Middleton catalogue includes two plates, one depicting obverses, the other reverses, of 18 notable ancient Greek coins from the collection. The plates are of high quality and are stamped on the backs by the photographer, Napoleon Sarony, 680 Broadway, New York. Among the highlights are an Amphictyonic stater of Delphi (lot 41 at \$13), a tetradrachm of Archelaus of Macedon (lot 270 at \$15), and an EID MAR denarius (lot 645 at \$19); remarkably, all of these lots, and quite a few more, were purchased by Prof. Charles E. Anthon.

**References:** Adams 19 (rated B+ overall, A for ancients). Attinelli 70. Davis 1030.









Over the years, numismatists had attempted to locate a photograph of W. Elliot Woodward, to no avail. Efforts to contact descendants had been unsuccessful until the above photo was discovered in 2016 by Suzanne Woodward Banner, Woodward's great-great-granddaughter.

## W. ELLIOT WOODWARD

William Elliot Woodward (1825–1892) was one of the most important members of the nineteenth-century American coin trade, and his reputation has continued to be held in high esteem through the present day. He was primarily an auction cataloguer, publishing 108 numbered sales plus a handful of unnumbered catalogues including one of the most important book auctions held in this country during his lifetime. Woodward was scholarly by inclination, though he managed to combine this trait with a business acumen that was keener than that of most of his colleagues. He focused his numismatic activities on cataloguing, resisting the urge to write full-length books or publish a house organ, with only the occasional numismatic article or short monograph coming from his pen. He published (or underwrote the publication of) a number of works in the field of Americana, and was active in civic life and in real estate development in the Boston area.

Woodward's early auction catalogues are of the highest importance for the time period. His first few sales are ordinary, but he stepped boldly to the forefront of the nascent hobby with his November 1862 sale of the collection of the Rev. Joseph Maria Finotti. The 88-page, 1908-lot catalogue was one of the largest such catalogues yet issued in the country, and the total hammer price of \$3,751.43 set a new record. It became the first of eight Semi-Annual Sales held through 1866, all of which featured enormous collections and required herculean cataloguing efforts. The capstone of Woodward's early career was his 1867 sale of the Joseph J. Mickley cabinet, one of the finest ever formed in this country and without question the most important coin collection to have been sold in the United States to that time. Unfortunately for us today, all of these catalogues pre-date the use of photographic plates in numismatic auction catalogues.

For a decade after the Mickley sale, Woodward focused his attention on other matters, only returning to the coin hobby in full force in 1878. By that point, photographically illustrated catalogues were beginning to become more common, and from 1880 through 1890 he issued thirty-four plated sale catalogues, more than any of his competitors. Eight of these catalogues included ancient coins on the plates (and three of these are rated A for ancients by Adams), placing Woodward in a three-way tie with Ed Frossard and the Chapman Brothers for the largest number of nineteenth-century American catalogues featuring plated ancient coins. Woodward's plates (usually made using the "heliotype" process, one of many collotype variants) are usually of high quality and his plated catalogues are generally printed on thicker paper than the unplated copies of the same catalogue, making them a pleasing addition to any numismatic library.

89. Woodward, W. Elliot. **CATALOGUE OF THE COLLECTION OF ANCIENT AND FOREIGN COINS, FORMERLY THE PROPERTY OF MR. WM. J. JENKS, OF PHILADELPHIA. ALSO, OF A COLLECTION OF AMERICAN AND FOREIGN COINS AND MEDALS, TOGETHER WITH A LARGE VARIETY OF COIN SALE CATALOGUES, FRACTIONAL CURRENCY, MINOR GEMS, ETC.** New York: Bangs & Co., January 10–13, 1881. 8vo, printed green paper covers. 111, (1) pages; 2500 lots; 2 collotype plates.

Scarce. An important collection, particularly so for ancient and English coins, with the sale beginning with over 650 lots of ancient Greek and Roman pieces. Woodward's introduction deems the sale "by far the finest Collection of Ancient and Foreign coins that I have ever had the good fortune to offer for competition." That said, his lengthy description in the catalogue of an aureus of Pescennius Niger (he failed to identify the piece, which was not from the Jenks collection, as a Becker counterfeit) precipitated a long-standing feud with Ed Frossard that was reconciled only later in the decade. The second plate is entirely devoted to ancient coins. Highlights of the sale included a shekel and a half shekel of the Jewish War (lots 75 and 76 at \$35 and \$27.50, respectively, the first to dealer George Cogan); neither date is provided in the catalogue, though the plate reveals the half shekel to be a Year 2 specimen (it is noted that the coin bears "inscriptions in the same characters as the preceding," suggesting that the shekel, whose reverse is shown on the plate, is also of Year 2). Other notable pieces include a gold trichryson (pentadrachm) of Ptolemy II depicting Ptolemy I Soter (lot 37 at \$37), a stater of Philip II (lot 96 at \$17.25), and an aureus of Marcus Aurelius (lot 437 at \$13.25).

**References:** Adams 34 (rated B+ overall, A for ancients). Davis 1162. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.







**90.** Woodward, W. Elliot. **CATALOGUE OF THE COLLECTION OF AMERICAN AND FOREIGN COINS AND MEDALS, ANCIENT AND MODERN, FORMERLY THE PROPERTY OF MR. A. DOHRMANN, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA. ALSO OF A SMALL NUMISMATIC LIBRARY, AND A LITTLE COLLECTION OF UNION ENVELOPES.** New York: Bangs & Co., March 6–11, 1882. 8vo, printed green paper covers. (2), (5)–180 pages; 3631 lots; 4 collotype plates.

A wide-ranging sale, with plates devoted to United States patterns and other rare American coins, as well as to European crowns and multiples. The fourth plate depicts one side each of thirteen ancient Greek silver coins, including an archaic tetradrachm of Sybaris (lot 1231 at \$8.15), a very well-preserved tetradrachm of Alexander III (lot 1238 at \$6.75), and a scarce tetradrachm of Antiochus VIII (lot 1254 at \$6.13).

**References:** Adams 45 (rated B+ overall, B+ for ancients). Davis 1167.



91. Woodward, W. Elliot. **CATALOGUE OF THE WASHBURN COLLECTION OF COINS & MEDALS, FRACTIONAL CURRENCY, &C., &C.** Boston: Sullivan Bros. & Libbie, June 6–7, 1882. 8vo, printed green paper covers. 50 pages; 1235 lots, plus 162-lot addenda; 1 collotype plate.

A scarcer sale with the plate, which depicts one side each of seven ancient Greek silver coins, as well as European silver coins and American store cards. The ancients include a tetradrachm of Ptolemy I Soter (lot 1031 at \$5), a tetradrachm of Akragas (lot 1034 at \$4.40), and a tetradrachm of Amyntas with the head of Athena (lot 1047 at \$4.25).

**References:** Adams 47 (rated C+ overall, C for ancients). Davis 1169.







92. Woodward, W. Elliot. **GOLD, SILVER, BRASS, AND PAPER. CATALOGUE OF COINS & MEDALS, ANCIENT AND MODERN. A SMALL COLLECTION FROM GERMANY, AND VARIOUS CONSIGNMENTS.** New York: Bangs & Co., July 24–25, 1884. 8vo, printed green paper covers. 54 pages; 1301 + 127 lots; 1 collotype plate.

Nine ancient coins are included on the sole plate: a rather rough tetradrachm of Smyrna (lot 554 at \$12.50), a Thracian stater of the Koson type issued during the proconsulship of Brutus (lot 626 at \$13.75), and three electrum staters of the Bosporan King Rhescuporis III (here described as Rhescuporis VII) that brought decent results despite being poorly described (lots 641–643 at \$11.50, \$11.50 and \$11.00, respectively).

**References:** Adams 68 (rated C+ overall, unrated for ancients). Davis 1182.



93. Woodward, W. Elliot. **THE MONEY OF THE STRANGERS. CATALOGUE OF THE NUMISMATIC CABINET OF MR. I.M.A. LERMANN, OF NEW YORK CITY, WITH THE ADDITION OF SEVERAL IMPORTANT CONSIGNMENTS.** New York: Bangs & Co., December 29–31, 1884. 8vo, printed green paper covers. 93, (1) pages; 1842 lots; 1 collotype plate.

A scarce plated sale. The plate is mostly dedicated to European coins of the early modern era, but it includes two notable pieces purporting to be ancient: a Syracusan dekadrachm (lot 523) and what is described as an oktodrachm of Tarentum, both of which are stated in the catalogue as being from the famous Castellani collection. The *American Journal of Numismatics* had noted these pieces in their preview of the sale published in the January 1885 issue (which presumably was received in December): “It contains two medallions, one a Decadrachm of Syracuse, the other an Octodrachm of Tarentum, which alone will give character to the sale, and both are illustrated on the plate.” Unfortunately for Woodward, any character lent to the sale by these pieces was not what he had anticipated. As the April 1885 *AJN* follow-up reported: “The two medallions mentioned in our last number as found in the collection, and claimed by the owner as from the Castellani Collection, both proved to be false; they were beautiful examples of the counterfeiter’s art.” Whether that final remark was intended to spare Woodward’s feelings or the embarrassment felt by the *AJN* editors at having drawn attention to them in the first place, I couldn’t say. The American Numismatic Society’s library has a copy of this catalogue (available for viewing through the Newman Numismatic Portal) that is heavily annotated, and which identifies a number of other ancient coins offered in this sale as being a “casting,” “modern,” “bogus,” “a Becker,” “16th century,” or “doubtful.” *Caveat emptor.*

**References:** Adams 70 (rated B– overall, B for ancients). Davis 1184.







94. Woodward, W. Elliot (assisted by Ed Frossard). **CATALOGUE OF COINS OF ALL COUNTRIES. ANCIENT COINS OF GREECE AND ROME IN GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER; AND MODERN GOLD, COMPRISING A COLLECTION OF THE UTMOST RARITY OF PATTERN COINS AND SILVER DOLLARS, SEVERAL OF WHICH, SO FAR AS COLLECTIONS ARE CONCERNED, ARE UNIQUE. ALSO A FINE LIBRARY OF NUMISMATIC WORKS IN VARIOUS LANGUAGES, MANY FULLY ILLUSTRATED WITH NUMEROUS PLATES.** New York: Bangs & Co., September 10–13, 1888. 8vo, printed green paper covers. 101, (1) pages; 1557 lots; 5 collotype plates.

The second of the four “Vicksburg” sales, which offered the extraordinary collection of George Marion Klein. Woodward was assisted by Ed Frossard, his erstwhile nemesis, in the cataloguing of the sales. The plates prepared to accompany the catalogues were not bound with the catalogues (as with Woodward’s earlier plated sales) but distributed separately in envelopes, perhaps accounting for their scarcity. Whatever the reason, they are indeed very rare. The second and third plates of this particular catalogue depict a variety of ancient and modern coins of the world, with the second featuring several aurei including ones of Claudius (lot 719 at \$16.50), Domitian (lot 723 at \$17.75), and Lucius Verus (lot 727 at \$18). The third plate is entirely devoted to ancient silver coins, including a silver stater of Lyttos (lot 1138 at \$18), the Syracusan dekadrachm from the Ferguson sale of 1883 (lot 1173 in this sale, selling for \$101 to A.H. Saltmarsh despite bringing \$240 in Ferguson), and a Year 2 shekel from the Jewish War, also ex Ferguson (here lot 1235 at \$33).

**References:** Adams 101 (rated A– overall, A for ancients). Davis 1191. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.

Plate III.



95. Woodward, W. Elliot (assisted by Ed Frossard). **CATALOGUE OF COINS OF ALL COUNTRIES. PART III OF THE GREAT COLLECTION FORMED AT VICKSBURGH, MISS. RARE COINS OF ANCIENT GREECE AND ROME, SUPERB SPECIMENS OF THE BRUNSWICK COINAGE, SILVER COINS OF ALL COUNTRIES, RARE AMERICAN AND COLONIAL COINS, ETC., ETC., ETC.** New York: Bangs & Co., October 25, 1888. 8vo, printed green paper covers. 37, (1) pages; 570 lots; 2 collotype plates.

The third Vicksburg sale. The plates for this particular sale are so rare that they were unrecorded in the literature until Charles Davis discussed them in an article in the Winter 1992 issue of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society's periodical *The Asylum*. Both plates feature some ancient coins, mostly relatively unimportant Greek silver pieces, but the second plate includes a tetradrachm of Priansus (lot 366 at \$18), a fine tetradrachm of Philip II of Macedonia (lot 377 at \$6.75), and a Year 2 half shekel of the Jewish War (lot 390 at \$25).

**References:** Adams 102 (rated B+ overall, B for ancients). Davis 1192.

Plate II.





96. Woodward, W. Elliot (assisted by Ed Frossard). **CATALOGUE. PART IV OF THE GREAT NUMISMATIC COLLECTION, MADE AT VICKSBURG, MISS., COMPRISING A LARGE NUMBER OF FINE AND RARE COINS OF ANCIENT GREECE AND ROME, IN GOLD, SILVER AND COPPER, MISCELLANEOUS FOREIGN COINS, SERIES OF HISTORICAL MEDALS, COLONIAL CONTINENTAL AND CONFEDERATE PAPER MONEY UNITED STATES FRACTIONAL CURRENCY, ETC., ETC., ETC.** New York: Bangs & Co., February 4–5, 1889. 8vo, printed green paper covers. 54 pages; 860 lots; 2 collotype plates.

The fourth and final Vicksburg sale. The first plate is entirely devoted to Greek and Roman silver coins, including a Year 3 shekel of the Jewish War (lot 261 at \$34), a silver stater of Kydonia (lot 189 at \$32), and a Syracusan tetradrachm depicting Philistis, wife of Hiero II (ex Ferguson, lot 225 at \$21.75). The second plate features ancient gold coins among some more modern pieces, and includes a gold mnaieion (oktadrachm) of Arsinoe II Philadelphos (lot 244 at \$71), a gold stater of Cyrenaica with Zeus-Ammon standing (magistrate's name unclear, lot 190 at \$30), and another Cyrene gold stater with Zeus-Ammon sitting (lot 191 at \$28).

**References:** Adams 105 (rated A– overall, A for ancients). Davis 1193. Unlisted in Spring, though qualified for inclusion.

Plate I.



252



157



261



158



225



232



239



205



256



181



189



414



177



240



249



386



284



260



491



214



484



404



489



490



194



377



444



241



471



445



451



224

## Appendix A

### STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF EARLY AMERICAN COIN DEALERS AND THEIR AUCTION CATALOGUES

In 1982, *United States Numismatic Literature, Volume I: Nineteenth Century Auction Catalogs*, by John W. Adams, was published by George F. Kolbe. This volume revolutionized the study of early American numismatic literature and did much to revive it from the slumber it had been in for decades. In 1990, the book was followed by a second volume, which covered auction firms that began during the first half of the twentieth century. For the collector of American numismatic auction catalogues, these works are a godsend. They provide a detailed bibliography listing every auction catalogue produced by the major dealers of their day, as well as introductory information about the dealers themselves and commentary on their catalogues, including notes on special editions and the names of consignors. Before Adams, collectors interested in the early history of our hobby were mostly left to their own devices to discover whatever they happened to stumble across in the dark. No one was really sure what even existed.

The Adams volumes are far more than checklists for collectors, however. The entire second half of each book is devoted to analyzing the *contents* of the catalogues, and grading the quality of the catalogues' offerings across no fewer than 26 categories. Collectors of a particular series—for instance, U.S. gold coins—could look through the second half of each volume and easily determine which catalogues were relevant to their area of study. This extends the utility of the Adams volumes far beyond the realm of the numismatic book collector, making them a useful research tool for anyone conducting numismatic study.

One of the categories for which Adams grades content is ancient coins. Grades for individual categories range from A to C (for the overall rating, the grades are extended to run from A+ to C–). A catalogue may remain unrated for a particular category, even if there are a few pieces that fall within its purview, if the content is deemed of insufficient research interest. While one may quibble occasionally with the individual grades assigned, the overall system works well in giving us an idea of which early American coin dealers made ancient coins a regular part of their business and who handled the particularly important collections of them.

**Table 1** provides three sets of data that provide us with a good sense of which members of the early American coin trade were active in the field of ancient coins

and to what extent. The first (leftmost) row gives us the total number of sales from each dealer for which the ancient content is given a rating by Adams. The numbers here are informative, but when we begin to compare them to the other columns, it starts to seem as though they may be more a function of longevity than anything else—those dealers who held the largest number of sales tend to have had the most sales with ancient coins in them. Tom Elder (who held 292 numbered sales) is by far in the lead in this column, which is also explained by timing: the frequency with which he held notable ancient coin sales increased radically as the Chapman Brothers began to wind down their activities.

Looking at the total numbers, we see Elder, as mentioned, leading by a very large margin with 135 catalogues that include enough ancient content to have been deemed worthy of mention by Adams. Tied for second place in total offerings are Ed Frossard and Lyman Low. This is interesting, because while Elder and Frossard maintain their #1 and #2 ranking for notable and important offerings of ancient coins, Low does not, being tied for the #7 ranking for notable sales and not making the top ten for important sales. Comparing this type of information allows us to draw conclusions about the activities of these early American coin dealers, alerting us, for instance, to the fact that while Lyman Low offered few important collections of ancient coins, he routinely included ancients in his catalogues and they should not be assumed to be devoid of interest.

Continuing down the list of total numbers, following Elder, Frossard and Low, we have Wayte Raymond and M.H. Bolender. Raymond (whose numbers in this table include his Morgenthau sales) is not a surprise—but Bolender is. Raymond's numbers will remain consistent, with him coming in at #4 on the ranking of notable offerings, but Bolender will drop from #5 in total offerings to being tied for the #10 position in notable offerings (though even this achievement will come as a surprise to many who think of him purely as a dealer in American material). He held no sales that achieve the highest ranking for ancient coins.

The Chapman Brothers come in at #6 in the ranking of total offerings, though the changing nature of their business demands some clarification here. The duo held 26 sales that are rated by Adams for ancient content; separately, Henry held a further 18 and Samuel Hudson a further 7. Had the brothers maintained their business partnership, they would have come in with 51 total rated sales, placing them in second place—which fact should be kept in mind.

Tied at #6 with the Chapman Brothers as a joint firm is B. Max Mehl, a name that surely is surprising to associate with ancient coin sales. In many ways the archetypal American coin dealer, Mehl will go on to surprise us further by jumping to the #5 ranking in offerings of notable sales of ancient coins. The #8 spot on the list of total sales is held by Stack's, an impressive showing given that the firm held their first auction sale in 1935 and this study concludes at the end of 1939. The #9



spot is held by W. Elliot Woodward, whom one might have thought would rank higher, with the #10 spot being tied between Henry Chapman (solo) and Edward Cogan.

When we shift our attention to the second column, comprising notable sales of ancient coins (defined here as those rated in the A or B levels by Adams), we see some refinement of our ratings. The top two spots remain held by Elder and Frossard, as mentioned above, but the Chapman Brothers jump to #3 (and will retain that ranking in the next column as well). Wayte Raymond maintains his #4 ranking, but Elliot Woodward jumps to tie the #5 spot with Max Mehl. The #7 ranking is tied between Lyman Low (who fell) and Stack's (who climbed), with Henry Chapman (solo) at #9 and the #10 position being tied between Bolender, Cogan, and the heretofore unranked William Strobridge.

The third column is the most exclusive, and lists the number of catalogues rated A by Adams for ancient coins. Elder, Frossard and the Chapman Brothers maintain the top three positions, though the Chapmans share the honor with Woodward, who worked his way up from his 9th place showing in the column of total sales. A tie for #5 between Cogan and Strobridge speaks highly of these very early dealers, and a four-way tie for #7 between Henry Chapman, J.W. Scott, Harlan P. Smith and Stack's closes out the top ten list for most important offerings. The inclusion of Scott and Smith in the top ten ranks in this most important column is remarkable, given that they did not reach this threshold in either of the previous columns—indicating that while they may not have held as many sales as their peers, they conducted very good ones when they did.

The total number of catalogues may be surprising to many readers. In all, Adams reviewed 536 pre-1940 American numismatic auction catalogues that he deemed worthy of rating for ancient coins. Of these, he felt 214 catalogues included ancient content worth of an A or B level grade (what I call “notable” in the table). A remarkable 43 of these early American catalogues are given an A-level grade in the ancient category by Adams (what I am deeming an “important” sale). While not all of these catalogues are illustrated, their importance provides sufficient argument for including them in one's library.

The data presented in Table 1 are interesting, but may leave us unsatisfied when it comes to giving us a better idea of who was most actively involved in the ancient coin trade in the United States before the Second World War. Was Harlan Smith really a more important ancient coin dealer than Lyman Low, just because he offered a couple of truly important collections and Low mostly held more modest sales? To view the subject from another angle, a different approach was used.

**Table 2** presents the same information as Table 1, but in this case the data have been weighted. For each catalogue listed in the first column of Table 1, one point has been awarded (making the columns identical). For the second column, however, five points have been awarded for every catalogue listed, and for the third column, ten points have been awarded for each catalogue listed. This leads to a fourth column, which tallies all of the points awarded, giving us a cumulative score for each dealer that perhaps more accurately reflects the importance of his complete career offerings of ancient coins.

The top ten point recipients are as follows:

Thomas L. Elder	540
Ed Frossard	213
Chapman Brothers	141
W. Elliot Woodward	114
Lyman H. Low	108
Wayte Raymond	103
B. Max Mehl	91
Stack's	90
Henry Chapman	83 (tie)
Edward Cogan	83 (tie)

Again, the Chapman Brothers present us with a problem in that if the brothers had continued their partnership, instead of separating in 1906, they would have accumulated 241 points. This would put them solidly into second place ahead of Ed Frossard, who would drop to third, and remove the ninth-place tie allowing William Strobridge to take 10th place.

The numbers generated in this analysis do more than simply establish a pecking order. They serve to shed light on the fact that ancient coin collecting was considerably more widespread in the United States in the years between the Civil War and the Second World War than we generally assume. Most coin dealers handled such material on at least an occasional basis, and for many of them it was a substantial portion of their business. The activities of individual dealers can also be reexamined with this information in mind. In sum, the two tables show that while ancient coins may have played only a modest role in the early American coin trade, that role was larger than most numismatists have realized.

**Table 1 — Number of auction catalogues issued through 1939 that include ancient coins**

Cataloguer	Total	Notable	Important
Geoffrey C. Adams	6	2	0
Bangs	8	5	1
Barney Bluestone	5	4	0
M.H. Bolender	30	7	0
Chapman Brothers	26	15	4
Henry Chapman	18	9	2
S.H. Chapman	7	2	0
Edward Cogan	18	7	3
George Cogan	4	1	0
Thomas L. Elder	135	61	10
Ed Frossard	48	21	6
Ben Green	5	1	0
S.K. Harzfeld	7	1	1
John W. Haseltine	16	2	0
William Hesslein	0	0	0
Lyman H. Low	48	10	1
Ebenezer Locke Mason	2	0	0
George Massamore	0	0	0
B. Max Mehl	26	11	1
New York Coin & Stamp	8	2	0
David Proskey	1	0	0
Wayte Raymond	33	14	0
H.G. Sampson	2	0	0
J.W. Scott	13	4	2
Harlan P. Smith	13	5	2
Smith & Sampson	1	0	0
Stack's	20	10	2
Chas. Steigerwalt	5	1	1
T.R. Strobridge	1	1	0
William Strobridge	11	7	3
W. Elliot Woodward	19	11	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>43</b>

**Total:** the total number of sales rated by Adams for ancient coins

**Notable:** the number of sales rated in the A or B levels for ancient coins

**Important:** the number of sales rated A for ancient coins

**Not included:** Fred & Edward Michael, whose catalogues are not fully discussed by Adams.

**Table 2 — Weighted scores for auction catalogues issued through 1939 that include ancient coins**

Cataloguer	Total	Notable	Important	Score
Geoffrey C. Adams	6	10	0	16
Bangs	8	25	10	43
Barney Bluestone	5	20	0	25
M.H. Bolender	30	35	0	65
Chapman Brothers	26	75	40	141
Henry Chapman	18	45	20	83
S.H. Chapman	7	10	0	17
Edward Cogan	18	35	30	83
George Cogan	4	5	0	9
Thomas L. Elder	135	305	100	540
Ed Frossard	48	105	60	213
Ben Green	5	5	0	10
S.K. Harzfeld	7	5	10	22
John W. Haseltine	16	10	0	26
William Hesslein	0	0	0	0
Lyman H. Low	48	50	10	108
Ebenezer Locke Mason	2	0	0	2
George Massamore	0	0	0	0
B. Max Mehl	26	55	10	91
New York Coin & Stamp	8	10	0	18
David Proskey	1	0	0	1
Wayte Raymond	33	70	0	103
H.G. Sampson	2	0	0	2
J.W. Scott	13	20	20	53
Harlan P. Smith	13	25	20	58
Smith & Sampson	1	0	0	1
Stack's	20	50	20	90
Chas. Steigerwalt	5	5	10	20
T.R. Strobridge	1	5	0	6
William Strobridge	11	35	30	76
W. Elliot Woodward	19	55	40	114

**Total:** 1 point per sale rated by Adams for ancient coins

**Notable:** 5 points per sale rated in the A or B levels for ancient coins

**Important:** 10 points per sale rated A for ancient coins





## Appendix B

### NOTABLE EARLY AMERICAN AUCTIONS OF ANCIENT COINS WHOSE CATALOGUES ARE UNILLUSTRATED

Although photographically illustrated numismatic auction catalogues began to be produced in the United States in 1869, it would be quite some time before they became common. Most catalogues issued before the Second World War were not illustrated, and while substantial offerings were more likely to be illustrated than were lesser sales, nearly half of the catalogues that Adams rated A for ancient coins were not issued in an illustrated edition. This complicates efforts to trace the provenances of specific coins, since they cannot be plate-matched to published illustrations.

The following is a listing of early American numismatic auction catalogues rated A for ancient coins by Adams for which illustrated catalogues were not prepared. Copies of these catalogues that have been annotated with the names of buyers should be considered as valuable as plated catalogues for their utility in conducting provenance research.

Bangs & Company, May 5–6, 1884. Part IV of the Prof. Charles Anthon collection, catalogued by Gaston L. Feuardent.

Chapman Brothers, May 27–29, 1889.

Edward Cogan, January 24–28, 1876. Jewett collection.

Edward Cogan, May 1–2, 1879. Michael Moore collection.

Thomas L. Elder, June 19–20, 1928. Prof. E.B. Titchener collection.

Thomas L. Elder, May 20–22, 1929. S.H. Chapman collection.

Thomas L. Elder, May 23–24, 1930. Sam Guthman et al. collections.

Thomas L. Elder, June 19–22, 1934. R. Brevoort et al. collections.

Thomas L. Elder, March 23–26, 1938. F.W. Herrick collection.

Ed Frossard, April 10, 1886. (Some copies bear only the name of the auction house—Geo. A. Leavitt & Co.—and omit Frossard's.)

Ed Frossard, November 23–24, 1886. William B. Edwards collection.

Ed Frossard, December 24, 1889. J.V. Palmer et al. collections (sale is plated, but not ancients).

Ed Frossard, March 8, 1895. John Ulin et al. collections.

S.K. Harzfeld, October 25–26, 1877. Dr. Grotefend collection.

Lyman H. Low, April 4–5, 1924. Part II of the J.Coolidge Hills collection.

J.W. Scott, February 16–17, 1891.

Stack's, September 16, 1939. David Proskey (Part III) and J.D. Pyatt collections.

Charles Steigerwalt, January 18–19, 1910. Part II of the William S. Appleton collection.

William H. Strobridge, December 15–17, 1863. Part II of the William Lilliendahl collection.

William H. Strobridge, June 12, 1876. Lorin G. Parmelee collection (ex Brevoort).

W. Elliot Woodward, March 20–25, 1865. Bache et al. collections.

## Appendix C

### THE TOP TEN EARLY AMERICAN AUCTION CATALOGUES FEATURING ANCIENT COINS

Judging the importance of a book or catalogue (or, for that matter, a coin), is always a subjective exercise, though it is an exercise not wholly lacking in merit. All of the following catalogues are rated A for ancient coins by Adams, and all include photographically printed illustrations of ancient coins offered in the sale. In attempting to determine which of the catalogues discussed in this book are the most important, I have first looked at the number of plates of ancient coins in each one. That is one factor. Another, perhaps equally important, factor is content: what coins are depicted on the plates? Surely two plates of forgettable denarii are not superior to one plate of exceptional tetradrachms. On these factors, most of us could agree—or at least come close. After that, however, qualifications become more nebulous. Is the catalogue historically important in and of itself? That may well be more important to me than it is to most others. Does the quality of the photos appeal to me? Do I like the cataloguing? Do I like the cataloguer? At this point, subjective opinion is steering our course.

Featuring nine large-format plates of ancient coins, the 1912 Henry Chapman sale of the George H. Earle collection is probably the single most important pre-WWII American auction catalogue for ancient coins. Chapman's 1921 Jenks sale is likely the second most important. While the catalogues for both the 1920 Thomas Elder sale of the Henry C. Miller collection and the 1938 Stack's sale of the Reinhold Faelton collection include more ancient coin plates than either the Earle or Jenks catalogues, on the whole the coins are inferior (and in the case of the Stack's catalogue, the quality of the plates is mediocre). The other catalogues listed below are all special in their own way. The historical importance of the Mackenzie catalogue, as the earliest numismatic catalogue photographically illustrating ancient coins, argues forcefully for its inclusion on this list, and the exceptional quality of the Lawrence plates is difficult to ignore. While the rarity of a catalogue should perhaps not be a governing factor, the bibliophile in me just can't leave off the Schieffelin catalogue and its four exceptionally rare plates. Everyone's list will be a bit different, but I here take the author's prerogative and present mine.

1. Henry Chapman, 1912. Earle collection. 9 quarto plates of ancient coins.
2. Henry Chapman, 1921. Jenks collection. 6 quarto plates of ancient coins.



3. Thomas L. Elder, 1920. Miller collection. 14 plates of ancient coins.
4. Stack's, 1938. Faelten collection. 18 halftone plates of ancient coins.
5. Edward Cogan, 1869. Mackenzie collection. 1 plate of ancient coins. Important historically.
6. Thomas L. Elder, 1929. Lawrence collection. 4 exceptional plates of ancient coins.
7. Chapman Brothers, 1892. King collection. 2.5 plates of ancient coins.
8. William H. Strobridge, 1874. Middleton collection. 2 plates of ancient coins.
9. J.W. Scott, 1879. Schieffelin collection. 4 plates of ancient coins.
10. H.P. Smith, 1883. Ferguson collection. 1.5 plates of ancient coins.

## SOURCES

In the interest of readability, I have reined in my academic inclination toward extensive footnoting. My primary source of information has been the catalogues themselves, coupled with the guidance provided by the main bibliographies on the subject: most notably those of Adams, Davis, Gengerke, and Spring. Biographical information was derived from a number of sources, including printed advertisements (most especially in *The Numismatist*, the monthly publication of the American Numismatic Association) and government records preserved online and accessed through [ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com). These latter sources include U.S. census records, draft registrations, Social Security records, death indices, immigration and naturalization papers, and so on. Business and residential city directories have also been consulted on occasion.



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